

Hafa Adai!

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2 drug dealers get 10 years imprisonment. **PAGE 3**

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FBI agent: Ex-DPS chief, cop confessed having sex with girl



By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Haejun Park testified that former Department of Public Safety commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and Police Officer 3 Jesse Concepcion confessed during their interview that they had sex with a girl at a secluded San Antonio beach site in June 2013.

» Deleon Guerrero, Concepcion both surprised when FBI special agent told them the alleged victim was a minor

At a preliminary hearing on Friday, Park said Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion were surprised when he told them that the girl was a minor and

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Police Officer 3 Jesse S. Concepcion (in black polo shirt) goes through security screening by the CNMI Judiciary's Marshal Service upon entering the Judicial Complex in Susupe for the preliminary hearing on Friday afternoon. Concepcion and former Department of Public Safety commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero are facing charges of sexual abuse of a minor and misconduct in public office. Behind Concepcion is his wife.

was then only 15 years old.

Called by the CNMI government to the witness stand, Park explained why the FBI was involved in the investigation in the case against the 44-year-old Deleon Guerrero and the 45-year-old Concepcion.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho continued the preliminary hearing to May 9, 2016 at 1:30pm after an issue arose regarding affirmative defense.

Camacho ordered the prosecution and the defense counsel to submit briefs on the affirmative defense issue.

The issue was that "in a prosecution under 6 CMC 1303-1309, whenever a provision of law defining an offense depends upon a victim being under a certain age, it is an affirm-

See FBI on Page 4

DPL negotiates release of long-held accounts at BoS

» DPL remits \$800K to MPLT for NMD investment

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands has finally remitted money held for over a decade in the Bank of Saipan to the Marianas Public Land Trust, negotiating a release of an account and remitting this money, some \$800,000, to the trust for its investment.

DPL communicated the release of See DPL on Page 4

Benjamin T. Manglona, 78

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Benjamin Taisacan Manglona, the first Rotanese lieutenant governor of the CNMI, died yesterday. He was 78.

Manglona was considered to be the CNMI's longest serving elected official with his political career spanning over 40 years. He

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INSIDE



LOCAL

A U.S. flag dedicated to longtime CNMI resident and Marianas Coffee co-owner Ann Jordan flew on the U.S. Capitol Building.

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BUSINESS

Volkswagen said Friday that a diesel emissions-cheating scandal would cost it an astounding \$18.2 billion just for 2015, while Daimler revealed that U.S. authorities are sniffing around its tailpipes.

» PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE

Some of Prince's "most beloved" family, friends and musicians celebrated his life in a small, private service on Saturday after his remains had been cremated.

» PAGE 20



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Japan's "Kingdom of Wonderland"

40 Years "Kingdom of Wonderful," a popular Japanese show airing

nationwide to 5.4-million households, is scheduled to air a 35-minute program about the Northern Mariana Islands on May 22 and 29, 2016.

"Kingdom of Wonderland" introduces people who work in animal care, but it also has a corner to introduce the travels and activities of its hosts. The NMI program highlights show host Wataru Yokoo earning his PADI dive certification in Saipan. The host is also a member of the popular boy band Kis-My-Ft2.



The show focuses on diving locations and marine life in Saipan and introduces other activities and tourist

spots such as Mt. Tapochau and Managaha. It also highlights Hyatt Regency Saipan, where the film crew lodged during filming.

www.mymarianas.com



Local

Leyda Ada appeals conviction, sentence

Leyda I. Ada is appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit her conviction of perjury and sentence of two years and three months imprisonment.

Ada, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, on Friday notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI of her appeal to the Ninth Circuit.

Ada is appealing for the Ninth Circuit to reverse her conviction and sentence.

The defendant is also appealing to reverse the District Court's denial of her motion for judgment of acquittal.

Ada is seeking the reversal of the District Court's rulings on her objections to the presentence investigation report, including the findings and the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines' application.

Last Tuesday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona slapped Ada with a sentence of two years and three months imprisonment.

Ada was allowed her continued release pending the designation of her federal prison facility. She was required to call the U.S. Marshal Service thrice a week to check if there is already available federal prison facility for her.

Last June 26, a federal jury reached a verdict, acquitting Ada of the charges of conspiracy to commit money laundering and money laundering, but finding her guilty as to the

crime of perjury.

The 12 jurors found Ada guilty of perjury when she signed "no" to the question in the "CJA form" if she has any cash on hand or money in savings or checking accounts.

In order to determine whether Ada could afford her own lawyer when she was arrested, she was required by the court to truthfully complete a financial affidavit.

In the paragraph entitled "Employment," Ada also checked the "no" box indicating that she was not employed.

According to the indictment, Ada's statements were false because she knew that she had \$4,000 in cash at the time in her personal clothing drawer at her house and had access to and was an authorized user of at least two bank accounts.

Ada used to be a sales representative for Midwest Medical Supply Co. Inc., a Missouri-based company that had supplied dialysis consumables and equipment to the Commonwealth Health Center.

Ada's husband, Melvin Ada, is a former employee of the Commonwealth Health Center. He pleaded guilty to 56 charges for misappropriating and diverting CNMI Treasury checks made payable to a medical supplier company totaling over \$1.7 million. Last December, he was slapped with a sentence of 12.7 years imprisonment. (Jon Perez)

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Saipan Tribune



IN BIGGEST CNMI DRUG HAUL OF \$4.3M WORTH OF 'ICE' 2 drug dealers get 10 years imprisonment

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Zhenlin Fang and Yuli Liu on Friday were slapped with 10-year prison sentences each over the seizure and detection of over 10,700 grams of methamphetamine or "ice" reportedly worth about \$4.3 million.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered that upon release from imprisonment, Fang and Liu shall be placed on su-

pervised release for five years. The defendants were given credit for time served.

Among the conditions of the supervised release is that Fang and Liu will report to an immigration official for deportation proceedings.

If deportation does not occur and defendants are released pending further immigration proceedings, they will be required to report to the U.S. Probation Office to begin their term of super-

vised release.

Among the conditions of supervised release is for defendants to perform 50 hours of community work service.

Fang and Liu were ordered to pay each \$100 in special assessment fee.

Fang and Liu were ordered to immediately pay a fine of \$1,383 and \$697, respectively.

Manglona ordered the money seized from the defendants at the time of their arrest be returned to defense counsel Ste-

ven Pixley and Mark Hanson.

In return, Pixley and Hanson will use the seized money to pay the defendants' fine and assessment fee.

During their arrest, Fang had \$1,483 in his possession, while Liu had \$797.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe said the U.S. government waived the forfeiture provision.

Backe agreed with the U.S. Probation's recommendation to impose 120 months imprisonment on defendants.

Backe disagreed with the recommendation to have the defendants participate in a substance abuse program.

Backe stated that defendants were drug dealers and there was no evidence that they were drug users.

The defendants were remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Last Jan. 7, Fang, 24, pleaded guilty to count 1 of the indictment charging him with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine.

On Dec. 31, 2015, Liu, 36, pleaded guilty to count 1 of

See DRUG on Page 4

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Armed Service committee restricts Air Force use of divert money

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. House of Representatives' Armed Service Subcommittee on Readiness is drafting a Defense budget with provisions that restrict

the U.S. Air Force from acquiring land in the CNMI for a divert airfield until some Congressional oversight.

The draft Fiscal year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, provides some \$9 million to buy or lease

land in the NMI for a divert airfield, but "prohibits" the secretary of the Air Force from using any of these funds "until the congressional defense committees have received a report... that provides the specific location of the property or interest to

be acquired, the total cost, scope and location of military construction projects" and "analysis of any alternative locations considered." The draft budget adds these other locations could be within the CNMI or the Freely Associated States.

FBI

From Page 1

tive defense that, at the time of the alleged offense, the defendant reasonably believed the victim to be that age or older, unless the victim was under 13 years of age at the time of the alleged offense."

Park testified that the investigation in this case started with a Crime Stoppers' tip about a possible sex trafficking of minors in July 2013.

Park said the FBI conducted an investigation in 2013 separate from DPS because it involved child pornography and CNMI government officials.

The special agent mentioned the FBI's investigation in the case against Raymond B. Roberto, former firefighter Richard Sullivan Benavente, and Annette N. Basa.

In September 2014, Roberto, a former acting director of the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, was acquitted by a federal jury of charges that he enticed three minor girls to engage in prostitution and tampered a witness while he was in jail.

In 2013, a federal grand jury indicted Benavente on several counts of sexual exploitation of a child. He cooperated with authorities and pleaded guilty to a count of sexual exploitation of a child.

Last Feb. 22, U.S. Dis-

trict Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced the 45-year-old Benavente to the maximum imprisonment of 30 years.

In December 2014, Basa was slapped with a 17.5-year prison term for pleading guilty to sex trafficking of children.

Park said they solicited assistance from the CNMI's Attorney General's Investigative Division pertaining to the investigation against Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion.

Park said it was awkward for him to approach Deleon Guerrero for an interview in March 2014 because they knew each other as law enforcement partners.

The special agent said Deleon Guerrero confessed that he had sex with the alleged victim on two occasions at a San Antonio beach behind a school in June 2013.

He said Deleon Guerrero provided details of the sex encounters but stated that he was not aware that the girl was a minor.

In both occasions, Park said, Concepcion was present.

Park said Basa was the person who provided the girl to Concepcion.

He said Basa was providing the girl with customers for sex in exchange for money, drugs, and cigarettes.

Park said he believes that Deleon Guerrero was not aware with the arrangement between

Basa and Concepcion.

The special agent said according to Deleon Guerrero he believed then that the girl was not a minor because she had pubic hair.

Park said Concepcion was also surprised when he interviewed him in September 2013, but that the officer confessed and provided details about his multiple sex encounters with the girl.

Park said Concepcion provided corroborating information about Deleon Guerrero's sex encounters with the girl.

He said Concepcion stated that he had sex at least on four occasions with the girl.

Park said he interviewed the girl about half a dozen times mostly because of her sexual encounters with different persons.

He said Basa stated in his interview that initially she was not aware that one customer was Deleon Guerrero, but later found out that it's the then-DPS commissioner.

Park agreed with the statement of defense counsel Richard Pierce, counsel for Concepcion, that the police officer was very cooperative with the FBI's investigation.

Park said they had shown Deleon Guerrero the sex video between Benavente and the girl.

He said Deleon Guerrero stated that he believes it was the same girl he had sex at the beach site.

Park said Basa identified Deleon Guerrero.

Before Park took the witness stand, assistant attorney general Shannon Foley called AGID chief investigator Vicente B. Babauta, who is the case agent in the case against Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion.

Babauta basically testified how AGID conducted the investigation in the case.

Babauta said the case was forwarded to the AGID on Sept. 24, 2015, to pursue several individuals on local charges.

He said it was on March 10, 2016 when AGID initiated a joint investigation with the FBI into the case against Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion.

The defense called one witness, Office of the Public Auditor investigator Melissa Bauleong, who interviewed the girl in July 2013.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion each with one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, two counts of misconduct in public office, and two counts of conspiracy to commit sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Attorney Matthew J. Holley of Torres Brothers law firm is counsel for Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion are both under house arrest after posting \$15,000 and \$10,000 cash bail plus property, respectively.

DPL

From Page 1

the money—held in a restricted account at Bank of Saipan pursuant to an agreement between the bank and DPL's previous iteration, the Marianas Public Lands Authority—in a letter to the trust on April 11, 2016. A total of \$800,334.16 has been released to MPLT.

DPL Secretary Marianne Teregeyo said she wrote to the bank several weeks ago and requested to withdraw the money "because that money should have gone to MPLT constitutionally." MPLT, per the CNMI Constitution, invests money from DPL leases for the Northern Marianas Desert.

"This is big news," Teregeyo told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

She added that DPL is undergoing an audit under Deloitte and Touche right now and "any surplus determined

from the audit will again be remitted to MPLT."

"One of the main criticisms of DPL in the past is that we don't transfer money to MPLT. So we are taking care of that."

According to its most recent audit for fiscal year 2014, DPL's "deposits with the bank" amounted to \$1,288,552 and \$1,784,475 as of Sept. 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

DPL signed a depository and non-withdrawal agreement with the bank in October 2004, which requires the bank to disburse \$30,000 per month to DPL beginning the effective date of the agreement.

"DPL maintained deposits in the Bank of Saipan. On April 30, 2002, the bank went into receivership. On May 27, 2003, the bank officially reopened for business; however, DPL has been restricted from full access to the deposits held at the bank.

The bank agreement ties into the bank's collapse and receivership in the early 2000s

and the issue of funds held at the bank in the 1990s for the former public lands body that were never remitted to MPLT.

The former public lands body had built up a sizeable amount of money at Bank of Saipan, reported to amount to some \$11 million by the early 2000s.

"We've contended that it should have been remitted during the '90s. It shouldn't have been built up there," MPLT board consultant Bruce MacMillan told *Saipan Tribune*. "The constitution is very simple. It simply says that the monies collected from the public land leases, less their expenses to their administration, is to be paid to MPLT annually."

The constitution was later amended so that "administration" includes DPL's homestead program, through a constitutional convention in 1985.

"They've always used that as a shield against us trying to get any of their money," added MacMillan, referring to DPL's

justifications that they need to save money for the homestead program in these accounts.

"That shield doesn't work so well given the fact they are a part of the central government and they have to abide by the budget law," MacMillan said.

"So they are only allowed to spend what the government budgets for them. And our concern is that they built up a lot of cash and they haven't remitted them yet."

Teregeyo, appointed to the DPL's top post last February, also said these funds "shouldn't have been under DPL's custody," saying she did not know, when asked, why the funds were held. She acknowledged that this was beyond her time at the post.

"It should have been forwarded to MPLT. Because when MPLT received this money, they invested it at a higher rate...way more than the 1 percent that we collect," Teregeyo told *Saipan Tribune*.

The NDAA was marked up this week by the Readiness committee and will be marked up by the full Armed Services this week before heading to the floor for consideration by the House, according to U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in his newsletter Saturday.

Sablan also said the Air Force requested that the \$29.3 million previously authorized

in the FY2014 Defense bill for three divert projects on Saipan be reauthorized in the FY2017 bill, but the Committee turned down this request because the Air Force is unable to answer questions on the cost, scope, and specific location of the three projects.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

MANGLONA

From Page 1

was first voted to serve in the 1963 Marianas District Legislature where he served until 1965.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, in a statement issued yesterday, said he along with First Lady Diann Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog join the CNMI in mourning the passing of one of the Commonwealth's founding fathers.

"Diann, Lt. Gov. Hocog, and I extend our condolences to the family of the late Benjamin Taisacan Manglona, who passed away today. A native son of Rota, Manglona was instrumental in the development of the founding of our political status as a member of the Marianas Political Status Commission, which helped in drafting the Covenant," said Torres.

From the Marianas District Legislature, Manglona was elected as a Congress of Micronesia representative until 1970 with the Northern Mariana Islands still being administered by the U.S. under the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

In 1972, he was part of the 13-member Marianas Political Status Commission—the body that negotiated the CNMI's political status with the U.S. Federal Government—representing the island of Rota.

After then-U.S. President Gerald Ford signed Public Law 94-241 that established the CNMI in 1976, Manglona helped draft the CNMI Constitution serving as vice presi-

dent in the same year. He was elected to the first CNMI Legislature in 1976 as Rota senator and even became Senate president at a latter term.

He did not seek re-election in 1989 and instead joined the gubernatorial ticket of Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero. The Deleon Guerrero-Manglona tandem won the election and was sworn into office in 1990. They served for only one term and in 1998 Manglona was elected the mayor of Rota and served until 2006.

"As [Rota] Mayor, he had a love unparalleled for his home that radiated through his service to the community, and he was never hesitant to welcome visitors and show them the great hospitality it was known for," said Torres.

Aside from leaving his family, Torres added that Manglona also left a legacy that would continue to inspire and guide the CNMI. "Our islands are truly a better place now because of his selflessness and leadership."

The CNMI House of Representatives, in March 2011, adopted House Resolution 17-45—authored by then-Rota representative Teresita A. Santos—honoring Manglona's significant contribution to the Commonwealth as a public servant.

The CNMI Senate, in April 2011, passed a bill renaming the Rota International Airport as Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Then-governor Benigno R. Fitial signed the bill later that year.

DRUG

From Page 3

the indictment charging him with possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine.

The offense carries a minimum mandatory penalty of 10 years imprisonment, but also allows for a maximum sentence of up to life in prison. The offense also carries a maximum fine of \$10 million and at least a five-year term of supervised release.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on July 22, 2015, Fang and Liu picked up an air compressor at the Sunleader Company warehouse they believed had at least 10 kilograms of methamphetamine secured inside. The two intend-

ed to later distribute the "ice" to at least one other person.

On that same day, Liu intentionally possessed at least 100 grams of methamphetamine.

Liu maintained premises for the purpose of distributing the methamphetamine.

A Customs inspector detected the "ice" inside an air compressor in a container from Guangzhou, China, at the seaport warehouse on Saipan last July 17. That led federal and local law enforcers to make a follow-up investigation that ended with the arrest of Liu and Fang last July 22.

About 130 grams of "ice" were reportedly discovered at Liu's residence during a search operation. The \$4.3 million worth of "ice" was reportedly the biggest drug haul in CNMI history.

Kalinga Foundation offers variety of services

Kalinga Foundation held its second Medical Mission this year at the Garapan Basketball Court yesterday, offering more than just the usual blood pressure and blood sugar check up. Members of the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch), led by pastors Francis and Claire Javellonar, helped organize the project.

Body massage and reflexology, counseling, facial cleansing, and haircut were some of the free services they offered aside from the usual blood sugar and blood pressure check and eye screening.

Pastor Francis said that providing a variety of services had been Kalinga's trademark with its community work since they were still in the Philippines. They arrived on Saipan in 2001.

"We've been doing this since 2001 at Koblerville and we did not stop providing these services to all the members of the community up to now. We just adopted what we've been doing back in the Philippines, from the islands of Luzon to Mindanao."

They usually do the Medical Mission twice a year but there was a special case when

they celebrated their 10th year. "We've done it every month as part of our 10th year celebration of providing these services to the community," said Pastor Claire.

"We also have free circumcision and dental services where a lot of doctors volunteer their time. But we can't do that here since the U.S. have strict rules as you have to be licensed," added Pastor Francis.

They also gave away 90 gift bags that contain T-shirts, colognes, hand sanitizers, and combs given by their sponsors. (*Jon Perez*)

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Honda Pilot EX retail price \$44,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$613.70 or \$274.13 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$42,765.60.

6 Ayuyus gain entry to Gates scholarship

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six Kagman High School students have earned entry to the Gates Millennium Scholars program, moving one step closer of earning a college education in the mainland. This was according to KHS principal Leila Staffler, adding that two more are finalists and they are waiting for more information about it.

Staffler said the KHS student body, teachers, and staff are proud of the achievement

by the six. The names of the six students were not yet available at press time.

"There are 1,000 Gates scholarships awarded every year. This is the last year they will award the scholarship. I heard there are 11 on Saipan total so far. So, that means we definitely scored big this year," Staffler added.

She said the teacher advisers of KHS' Million Dollar Scholar, led by mentor Gerald van Gils, were instrumental in making the program happen.

"We want to thank the com-

munity for all of their support and most especially for the parents who have entrusted us in preparing their children for the next biggest step that will change their entire families life trajectory," added Staffler.

KHS took the top 21 of their students as part of the MDS program, a college preparatory class that would prepare the seniors of earning higher education. KHS, with the MDS, became the first CNMI high school that offered a college preparatory class.

Each of the 21 students ap-

plied to at least two major U.S. universities with 20 submitting an application to the Gates scholarship program, another 20 to the Asian/Pacific Islander Scholarship, and 16 at the QuestBridge Match Scholarship.

Several businesses and non-profit organizations have supported the fundraising efforts of KHS for its MDS program. They also have a GoFundMe account aside from donating directly to KHS. Airline miles or plane tickets are also accepted.

They will also publish a book containing the written essays of the 21 students that were submitted as part of their college application. Proceeds of the book would also go to the MDS fund that aims to help achieve their goal of going to college.

The book, *Reflections of Scholarship and Survival*, is a collection of the students' college essays where they wrote about the everyday challenges they faced and the stories of survival during Typhoon Soudelor's onslaught on Saipan.

Corporate sponsors can help either by helping them publish the book or by donating di-

rectly to their program. Funds raised will be used for the initial expenses that a student needs when accepted to college like plane tickets, application fees, climate-appropriate clothes, suitcases, books, and room and board.

Peter Santos, Ana Lieto, Rayannna Aldan, Viron Tenorio, Elizabeth Basa, Nimei George, Sara Kapileo, Fatimah Blake, Cassey Babauta, Jesus Pua, Coreen Ramon, Mikeala San Nicolas, Karen Laoyan, Jessa Camacho, Foysal Sojib, Asako Camacho, Lilly Jean Bautista, Jerry Borja, Josepha Cabrera, and Allison Arellano are the members of KHS' Million Dollar Scholars program.

MyPros celebrates first anniversary

Ahead of a spectacular first year anniversary event this Saturday, the Marianas Young Professional, or MyPros, has scheduled a series of events this week to promote the continued professional growth of young people in the local community.

Today, Monday April 25, a "Young Professionals Week Proclamation" signing event will be held at the Office of the Governor's conference room at 9am, followed by a round-table discussion with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, also the youngest sitting governor in the nation.

On Tuesday, MyPros will conduct a legislative presentation to lawmakers on what's needed for young professionals to succeed, what resources are necessary to elevate millennials into higher paying positions, and how the community can better support burgeoning professionals and young entrepreneurs, among other salient topics.

On Wednesday, April 27, MyPros will hold a workshop focused on careers and resume writing, among others. The workshop—located at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library and starting at 5:30pm—is suited for anyone who is interested in self-assessing their skills, strengths, and goals.

Free professional photos for attendees are also available from 5pm to 5:45pm by local photographer Daisuke Yanai.

On Thursday, April 28,

young professionals will visit school campuses and designated classrooms to share their journeys and/or talk to junior high and high school students about what students envision the future of the CNMI to look like and what they can accomplish together.

» Series of young professional development events this week

» First year anniversary 'masquerade' at Hyatt this Saturday

On Friday, April 29, the Team MYPros will show their team spirit and join the fight against cancer in the first ever "Rock Paper Scissors" Tournament. Flyers, drinks, and MYPros "Cheer Gear" will be provided. The event will be held at the Beach Road Atkins Kroll intersection from 4:30pm to 6pm.

And last but not least, MYPros will host "Garden Masquerade 1 Year Anniversary Event," on Saturday, April 30 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

One year ago, MYPros emerged as a non-profit organization with a mission to "connect passionate young professionals with opportunities to grow and engage socially, professionally, and civically for the benefit of the Commonwealth."

Since then, MyPros has been working to achieve its mission, guided by its passion for the CNMI and its potential as a collective group in effectuating changes in the island community.

MyPros is proud of what they've been able to do together so far, and are excited about the growth and change that 2016 can bring for MYPros, and the CNMI as a whole. (PR)

AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan

2016 Administrative Professional Day

April 27, Wednesday 2016

Special Lunch Buffet: 11:00am to 2:00pm.
\$20.00 adult & \$10.00 child for Local rate.

FREE flower and chocolate
for each administrative assistant.

AQUA RESORT CLUB

Photographer is available to take photo of the Administrative Assistant with the boss for souvenir. Raffle ticket will be given to guests and the lucky winner will get: 1 night room accommodation with breakfast for two.

Menu Featuring:

- Salad of Romaine Lettuce with Caesar Dressing and Condiments
- "Antipasto" Skewer
- Baby Shrimp "Ceviche" in Shot Glass
- Cajun Spiced Corn Tortilla Chips served with Cheesy Dip
- Tuna Rolls with Cream Cheese in Spinach Tortilla, Pickled Shaved Onion
- Assorted Cheese Platter with Condiments
- Beef Stroganoff with Buttered Fettuccini
- Fish fillet Picatta on Tomato-Olive Stew, Grilled Lemon
- Chicken and Corn Fritters, Avocado-Cilantro Remoulade
- Rolled Pork Stuffed with Vegetables, Sesame Scented Teriyaki Sauce

BTS search ends, but no snakes found

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

No snakes were reported caught or sighted as the latest search for brown tree snakes on Saipan came to a close.

According to U.S. Geological Survey Brown Tree Snake Rapid Response Team coordinator Adam Knox, they continued to conduct searches through the weekend bringing their total searching time in the focal area to three weeks.

The team, along with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources-Division of Fish and Wildlife, were searching the Lower Base area after a sighting was reported there on April 1.

The team set up traps and performed searches at night near the Lower Base area surrounding Middle Road to look for the snake and determine if it could possibly be part of a larger population of snakes in the area.

The latest sighting on April 1 was made at about 9pm describing a snake moving across the road toward the ocean side just south of Isa Drive near the Lower Base area.

"The witness, who had seen Brown Tree Snakes in Guam before, described the snake as being 4 to 5 feet in length and brown in color. It appeared to have possibly been ran over by a van in front of her car as she was slowing down for a closer look due the momentary struggling movement witnessed as the snake crossed the road near her car. The snake quickly disappeared into the forest next to the road after the encounter," Knox said.

"Since April 1, no additional snake sightings have been reported," he added.

"We will continue to monitor the snake sighting areas on a cyclical basis, although with less frequency," Knox said when asked what steps they will be taking when no snakes were found.

Although snakes, as cold blooded animals, use ambient heat to speed up their metabolism and are generally more active as temperature increases, the hot weather on island may not have noticeable difference in activity of the potential snakes in the Marianas "since temperature fluctuations are somewhat minimal at night during their time

of peak activity," Knox said.

Although the team focused on the Lower Base area, mouse-baited traps continue to be monitored around the airport near Dandan where previous sightings occurred.

Along with their operations, the team also had the opportunity to brief seven students from the environmental science department of the Northern Marianas College on the various components of Brown Tree Snake rapid response as well as the ecological significance of Brown Tree Snake before and then allowed the to shadow the start of a snake search as part of their course requirement.

"Everyone enjoyed the experience, learning interesting facts about the snake as well as our work," Knox said.

Knox called on the community to help in killing or capturing brown tree snakes should they be sighted.

"We encourage the CNMI community to kill any snake seen and report it by calling 28-SNAKE. If a snake is encountered but unable to be killed, please photograph it in its last known location and call 28-SNAKE," Knox said.



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Saturday, April 30, 2016

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Saipan
2016



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works**

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



**INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-007**

Repair and Renovation of San Antonio Youth Center

Governor Ralph Dg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Repair and Renovation of San Antonio Youth Center, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 25, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on **May 11, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Project Site, located at San Antonio, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m., local time on **May 13, 2016** to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the date of submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-3928/9638 no later than ten (10) calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW-16-IFB-007". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 27, 2016**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 27, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@ptpc.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 27, 2016**, and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 03, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:30 a.m. local time, June 06, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, May 27, 2016**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).**

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a)A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b)A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Govt Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US;
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
Director of Procurement & Supply

Dentist, clinic settle lawsuit over alleged defective tooth extraction

as well as court costs and attorney's fees.

Soloviev is a resident of Vladivostok, Russia. He has been a frequent visitor to Saipan over the last 10 years.

According to Fitzgerald in the complaint, in 2011 Soloviev and his wife Natalia contacted Markoff and Toothworks, inquiring about using their dental services.

In November 2011, Fitzgerald said Markoff advised Soloviev that it was necessary to extract one of his teeth. Soloviev agreed and Markoff extracted the tooth on Nov. 2, 2011.

The lawyers notified the court that having reached a settlement of this matter, they stipulate to the dismissal with prejudice of this lawsuit.

Dismissal with prejudice means the lawsuit can no longer be re-opened.

The parties agreed to bear their own attorney's fees and costs.

The parties, however, requested the court to retain jurisdiction to enforce the settlement agreement.

The lawyers said if the court requests, they will provide the settlement agreement to the court for review.

Soloviev sued Markoff and Toothworks for negligence and violation of the Consumer Protection Act.

Soloviev asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay him damages in an amount to be proven at trial,

The lawyer said Soloviev continued to be treated by Toothworks and Markoff throughout 2012, specifically in January, February, August, and September.

He said during these treatments, Toothworks and Markoff claimed to have closed an oral antral fistula.

On Sept. 11, 2012, Soloviev sought treatment at Toothworks for the worsening problem of his sinus, complaining of pus coming out of his nose.

Markoff again allegedly prescribed antibiotics and painkillers, and advised anew that the patient's problem was caused by his smoking.

After nine months of Toothworks and Markoff's treatments, which failed to correct the sinus problem or alleviate the pain, Soloviev sought help from a Russian dentist in Vladivostok, Dr. E.D. Edranov, on Sept. 26, 2012.

Upon examination, Fitzgerald said Edranov found a hole in Soloviev's gum tissue where Markoff had extracted his tooth that formed an open communication between the mouth and the maxillary sinus cavity.

Fitzgerald said the hole was lined with red and edematous tissue, filled with thick mucus, and was oozing purulent pus, and a foreign substance was found to be lodged in his sinus, which was causing his problem.

Edranov diagnosed Soloviev as suffering from a chronic and severe genyantritis, requiring immediate surgery to correct.

On Oct. 11, 2012, Fitzgerald said Edranov performed maxillary antral sinus surgery, opening Soloviev's maxillary sinus, and removing the foreign material and the purulent pus. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Application for the Capitol Hill geographical areas on Saipan.

Interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building #N-25, starting April 20, 2016 through April 29, 2016 (Monday to Friday) or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program Office no later than 4:00 p.m., April 29, 2016.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Erin Angela Camacho
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program would like to inform WIC participants of Capitol Hill, Talafofo, I'denne, and As Teo that Sara Market II is no longer an authorized WIC vendor.

Participants living in these area are encouraged to shop at either Joeten Kagman Market in Kagman or I-Mart in Tanapag for the closest access to your WIC food benefits.

The CNMI WIC Program is working on authorizing a vendor on Capitol Hill so that they can continue to provide participants living in these areas easier access to your WIC food benefits.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Erin Angela Camacho
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Schafer joins call for animal protection bill's passage

Nicole Schafer is hoping House Bill 19-55, or the animal protection bill, would finally get past all the hurdles at the Legislature so Gov. Ralph DLG Torres could officially sign it into law. She and other animal rights advocates are hoping this happens within the year.

First-term Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) is the au-

thor of HB 19-55, which aims to protect the welfare of dogs and other animals. Former representative Stanley T. Torres filed a similar bill, HB 17-35, in 2010 but after the bill passed the House no more action was taken.

Other animal protection bills were also introduced from the 13th to 16th legislatures but all failed to get the needed support and just gathered dust until it was completely forgotten.

Schafer, just like the local animal rights volunteer group Saipan Cares for Animals, is optimistic that it would be totally different this time with most of the lawmakers from both the House and the Senate

as well as Torres saying they 100 percent support the bill.

"The biggest hurdle now is get the bill past the House and I think they had set another hearing. The bill already got past the committee level but they still have to discuss and vote for it on the floor," Schafer told *Saipan Tribune*.

"It has strong support in the Senate and governor Torres said that he is also supporting it and even mentioned that he can't wait to sign the bill once it gets through the entire process," said Schafer, who just finished conducting a random survey

as part of her thesis project.

Her thesis, the Marianas Dog Attitude Survey, is a requirement for her second post-

graduate degree that she's trying to complete at The University of Edinburgh in Scotland, which also helped finance her research with a minimal stipend.

She conducted the random survey last month where

she asked 275 people of their attitude and treatment of dogs and other animals. Out of the 275, 77 percent are dog owners with 25 percent of them also having other pets in their homes.

"There's not enough attention on dogs and other animals in Micronesia that's why there's a question on the survey if they are happy or if they want to get rid of dogs," said Schafer, who was satisfied with the result.

"Sixty-five percent of the respondents said taking care of dogs are important part of the community and most of them say that they consider their pets as part of the family. That's why more adoptions were made with the help of Saipan Cares for Animals and the Mayor's Office."

A U.S. study last year showed the CNMI is dead last among the 56 states and territories when it comes to animal protection laws based on the Animal Legal Defense Fund. (*Jon Perez*)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military to conduct training at W-517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 April 25-28 from noon to 10pm.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear of the area during the dates and times indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (*PR*)

- Student Health Certificate (original/required)
- Legal Guardianship/Power of Attorney (if applicable)

Please note: Any child may be admitted to kindergarten at the beginning of a school year if the child's 5th birthday occurs on or before Sept. 30 of the school year for which the application is made. (*PR*)

Blue Marianas Productions partners with The Shack Saipan

Blue Marianas Productions, a Junior Achievement Company, will be marketing its service and their delicious healthy food on Friday, April 22, The Shack Saipan from 8am to 2pm.

Come to The Shack and get The Shack Pack—four of their best selling food items for just \$25. Coupons can be used by anyone anytime until expiration date.

The Shack Saipan supports education, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy in the CNMI.

What to expect 8am-2pm outside The Shack:

- \$8.50 Premiere Movie tickets
- \$15 Saipan Young Professionals We Run the Night registration form
- \$25 The Shack Pack
- Support for #MMAC2016

If you have any question just contact us through our social media accounts: Facebook—Blue Marianas Productions or Instagram and Twitter—Marianasprodx. (*PR*)

KagES now accepting kindergarten registration

Kagman Elementary School is now accepting new application for kindergarten for school year 2016-2017. Registration for kindergarten has started on April 11 and will end on May 13, 2016. Kindergarten registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please come to KagES main office from 8:30am to 3:30pm to register your child.

The following documents are needed to complete the student registration process:

- Complete Registration Form (required)



2nd Annual Women's Health Month



"#emPOWERing women TOgether"

Please join us for the start of Women's Health Month

Kick-Off Celebration

April 27, 2016 (Wednesday) 8:00am–12:00pm

@ The Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort



- Proclamation Signing
- Community Program Exhibits
- FREE Health Screening
- Healthy Snack Demonstration
- Dance Performance

Please contact Heather @ 287-4031 for more information

#emPOWERing women TOgether

Live the Fiesta Way!

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY AT World cafe

April 27, 2016 , Wednesday

Enjoy our Mediterranean Theme Lunch Buffet at \$19.99 per person

Receive a Special Gift and a chance to join in our "Spam Lite, Recipe Contest".

For Reservations and Inquiries Please call 233-6414 / 483-0462 or 234-6414 ext.1548 / 1544



Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Freebies: Legal or ethical?

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



A question has come up about "freebies" for public officials by private firms. Is it legal and ethical or neither? What's the larger damage to representation? It's about integrity where you do the right things by doing them right. "A man of principle" is not a man who understands a principle, but a man who understands, accepts, and lives by a principle. Accepting freebies leads you down the path to compromising integrity.

Acceptance instantly makes you beholden to the company. It's the beginning of turning yourself into a fulltime slave and lapdog. It often means ignoring the problems and concerns of your people in favor of the whims of your "new" boss. As is the blossoming case here, people at the helm ignore the folks who placed them in office singing the new siren song "bait and switch". Trust turns history!

So what's wrong with this scheme?

Obviously, the people you've trashed or taken for granted are not as stupid as you think. Intuitively, they know what you're up to and sort of begin the journey of "pues adios, estake" when the election swings around for "payback time." Not only would you have lost their graceful support, but your new boss would also find you useless and trash you too! It's trash upon your own trash! Call it "nuance" in unspoken demeanor tiptoeing through self-concocted self-destruction.

Magoo said that the ethical side of the issue is uppermost in the resolution of freebies. It's best to stay clear of it from the outset. You could sleep well at night!

Budget vs. claims: Understood the frustration of getting court-adjudicated claims paid by the administration. Thus the litigation that it is unconstitutional.

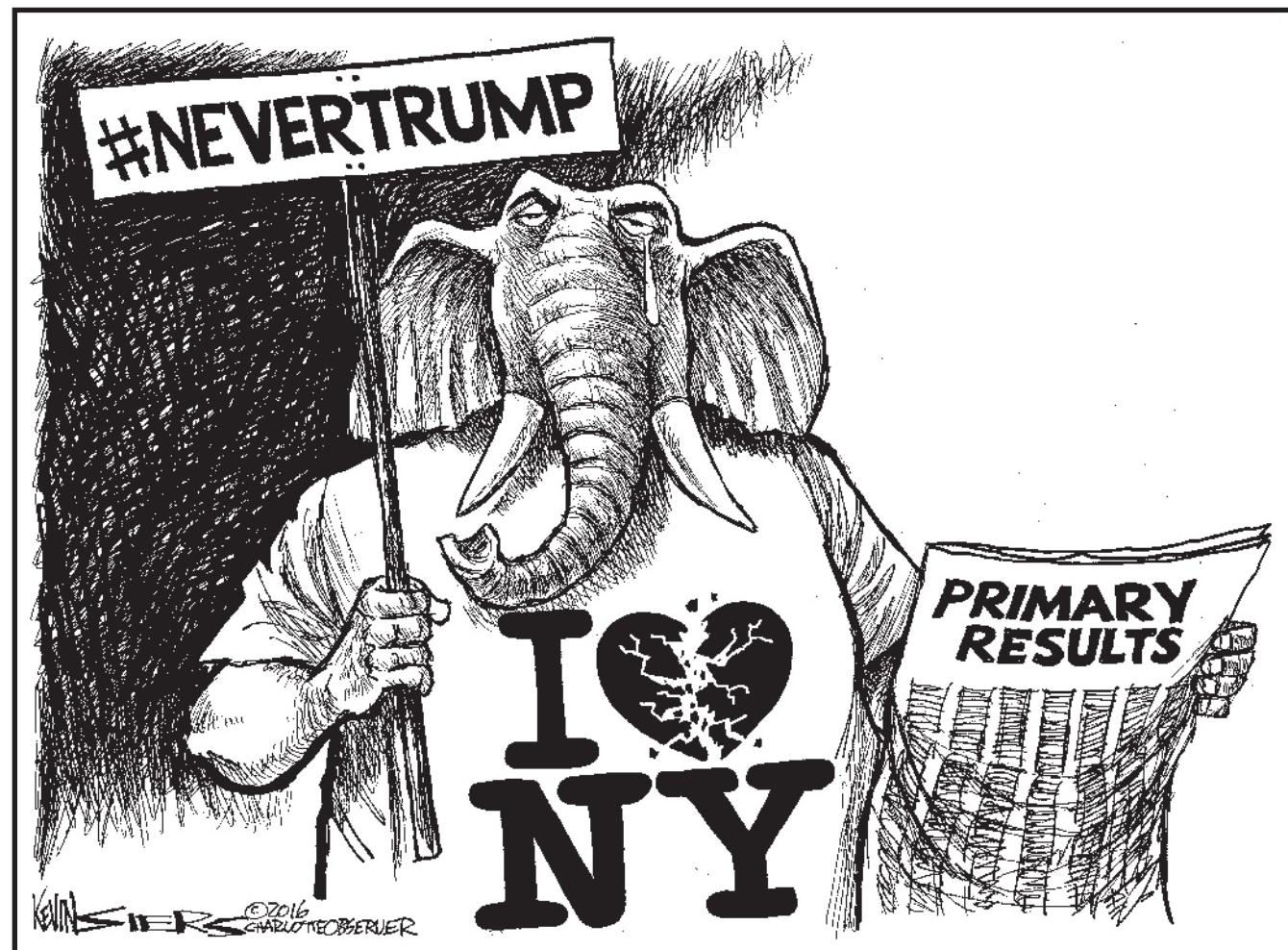
I also fail to see the nexus how a budget submission would be unconstitutional. Non-inclusion or omission of funds for claims is sheer financial negligence and incompetency of people at the helm more so than anything else. Playing the role of a mute doesn't absolve the NMI government from its obligations!

Interesting the omission yet the corridors of power (Torres/Hocog cabal) boasts silently of an increase in revenue for the next fiscal year. Really? Has the color in the red sea of bankruptcy changed already and isn't it another purposeful omission of fiscal responsibility?

I think herein lies some wide opening to force the administration to begin paying up its obligations like the \$46 million for land compensation, \$779 million in unfunded liability with the Retirement Fund, and other obligations. Sue for payment!

Class action: A class action lawsuit by land claimants ought to force the issue for payment. It should force the administration to buckle down to earmarking new sources of revenue to retiring this debt and obligation with finality. Recalled a land claimant who litigated it in federal district court where I was ordered (as

See FREEBIES on Page 11



Monastic

For 14 years, I was a member of a family Religious Order that collaborated with Jews and Moslems, seculars and non-theists, truly ecumenical beyond ecclesiastical structures. Arising from Christendom that fevered like a pentecostal congregation (our dean was previously an Ohio revival preacher whose diction is not foreign at Victory Chapel in Saipan) on one end, and a socially-branded liberal unitarian (we lived in the communities we served) on the other, and comprehensive diversity in between.

The body's work was communal and cooperative, a global network of 2,500 folks (*mas o menos*), organized as determined service centers termed "centrum" and "nexus," with metro, regional, and area corporate abodes called Religious Houses. Were one to compare it to another body, one would be at a loss to find one. It was a unique experiment, unrepeatable; there has never been one like it before, and there will never be another one like it ever again.

We had one task: to create a broad-based human (planetary and global) community wherever we were located, symbolically in every time zone across the globe. Process and procedure followed were highly participatory. We enabled the local house and the community we served to missionarize vision; communal resource was utilitarian rather than privately owned (personal property in two suitcases), decision-making practiced broadly until a consensus was pronounced, and self-hood was absolutely self-sustained, self-reliant, and self-confident.

My characterization of the body is somewhat like what my class hears and repeats mid-course of daily class session: "I am one, unique, unrepeatable gift of life into human history; there has never been one like me before and there will never be another one like me ever again. I live my life." They decide. They choose.

This is no rah-rah slogan so individuals can believe in an idealized self. It is a statement of fact, the uniqueness and unrepeatability resulting from the union of one sperm (out of a minimum of 200 million) with an egg that then journeys into finitude uniquely on its own until its completion. My reckoning on my journey's length, given what I know of my genetics and statistical probability, is 86 years! I invite my first graders to think of their education and life as a journey!

Being a monastic is, thereby, a given reality before it is a choice. One is uniquely on an unrepeatable journey from start to completion. It is not that we choose, in the first instance, to be solitaires. We are born that way. It echoes Akon and Joan Armatrading's song of "I, me and myself." Our choice is to declare "what is," rather than ran away from it, to yen for and achieve an imagined objective or goal.

As a teacher in a classroom, I have a board with the four core

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

curriculum titles where we post our objective. (I personally go by what students will retain in their minds, and what they will experience in the process). The four components of the Core curriculum has underneath Language Arts, the word "words," for Math, "numbers," for Science, "How," and for Social Studies, the "5Ws."

"Words" are nouns defined by adjectives and verbs with adverbs; "Numbers" are signs (equals =, plus +, minus -, multiply x and divide ÷), "How" is process standardized, and the 5Ws are "what, when, where, who, and why".

Across the room, I posted a picture of the brain of a child that has three parts: the medulla oblongata, the cerebellum, and the cerebrum; the first, processes sensual experiences of sight, sound, smell, taste and touch, the second, finds the balance on feelings, and the third, a sophisticated management of words and numbers formally taught in academe, all three becoming the basis for the whole body to respond in deeds.

While the eight (five senses, feelings, thoughts, and deed) seem a lot especially since the students are just beginning the first year of a 16-year learning journey, I teach them to "play attention" so learning shan't deteriorate into the memory work of formulas and forms but of challenging usage.

The monastic understanding clothed on the three classical vows, is that of the vow of poverty as detachment from matters unessential, the vow of chastity as being about one thing, and the vow of obedience as willing the Way Life Is (YHWH in Jewish terms sans Zeus of Olympus) abides.

So, what do I teach? There are only eight items, two less than the decimal system. Being about one thing is taking the laser beam of the times (symbolized by the smartphone that is now in the hands of more 90 percent of the population) to have input equals output. Then I transform my lifestyle so the time is managed, space is organized, roles are defined, and a story is told.

I am not about the pedagogy of content; I am a monastic who demonstrate methods, secularly and scientifically. I aim for a first grader the habit of nursing their own brain to intentionally guide their own learning. Monastic, I am. Functional monastics, my students will be!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Issues at the utilities company

This brings attention to the article, "CUC Human Resources Office to Help Create Organizational Chart" published on March 8, 2016, and the article, "Ratepayer Questions CUC Reorganization Plan" published on April 18, 2016, on the *Marianas Variety*. These brought out some intriguing information that trumped my urge to respond on the matters.

I elected to ask for assistance with our news outlets in the hope that this is a more efficient way to involve the media and to excite the principal to respond and also demonstrate to your readers the advantage of taken the discussion of the issues within our government to a public audit forum. It proves worthwhile knowing the swift response time of the principal, otherwise, as it is the frustrating norm within the CNMI government to quash the public on right-to-information request under the Freedom of Information Act. Communication of information after all work well with the media and it serves its purpose in a democracy as check and balance of the public interest.

The principal, Andrew Orsini, responded and noted that Agulto may have misread or misunderstood the proposal. The suggestion "may" have misread or misunderstood is possible, but in this case not so and impossible. What I had in mind was to question about what Orsini said that he himself have misread or misunderstood important principles and concepts in public human resources management that are being displayed in the public domain. By virtue of what he volunteered to say, there that makes clear the false pretenses and "gaming the system" by this learned bureaucrat misleading a role within CUC enterprise for the expected lost of benefit to its rate payers. The rhetoric so obvious, it is a surprise how this principal sleeps and not worry each day at CUC.

The March 8, 2016 article involved Orsini where he revealed matters being processed and taking care by his office. In particular, he noted that the CUC board approved the organizational chart for the Wastewater Division in a previous meeting. He also expressed he ensures that any reorganization is in compliance with human resource standards. Whether or not an apprenticeship program exists, Orsini is collaborating this matter with the Northern Mariana Training Institute and CUC will engage that program this month. He said that the apprenticeship program is available for CUC personnel to upgrade their skills and acquire more training. In order to keep this going, Orsini offered a link that the value of incentives will draw employees' motivation to seek for their training needs because the incentives dangling serve as lures of CUC's effort to making training work. A cross point he also highlighted concerning CUC's expectation to employ the services of such needed skilled workers. Orsini said these points by way of the public domain, not by me or anyone else. Personally and professionally, many if not all learned practitioners in public personnel or human resources management field would actually hesitate and nurse ignorance. In the way Orsini is proudly manifesting his knowledge and capacity that will cause wrong CUC in its going concern path and needs.

My points here takes into account the message rolled out by Mr. Jose S. Dela Cruz in his article a few days ago on the policies of competency or the lack thereof in our government. As a ratepayer and concerned citizen of our government, I have reasons to participate in our deliberative democracy and offer a valuable learning that public audit makes democracy real and real democracy is a value that all of us have an interest. This clarifies and ethically institutes the checks and balances of our struggling democracy.

FREEBIES

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secretary of DPL) to pay. I did!

The constitution also mandates retiring the prevailing cumulative deficit of some \$572 million by the end of next year. In sum, there's no room to wiggle funds for pet projects or anything else. To toy with it is to dig a wider and deeper fiscal hole, the largest ever since 1978.

Let's see the dire effects of a lack of plan and stormy incoherence as the gap in trust between government and our people widens.

Sense of community: There was a time in these isles—not so long ago too—when a strong sense of community brings us together. It matters to us that our neighbors are doing fine. We share what little we have from the sea and farmland.

This has seemingly changed and is now narrowed down strictly to immediate family. It still is heartwarming the felicitation and sense of cooperation we demonstrate when

Public audit is an important element of democracy, but when the elected politician and its appointed lineage fail to recognize the value of a public hearing to address a critical bill being introduced through the Legislature it's bad and erodes the democracy that we are learning to live with. Such ill-advised ruling when the elected AG purposefully ignored to explain himself in the matter implementing the constitutional mandate of governance of Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution, was a case in point, a wrong action that will continue to harm the CNMI people.

In this case, a very knowledgeable and expert in law and jurisprudence, a former judge and practicing attorney, elected to engage in "partiality" that caters to a private citizen. The public expectation dictates the elected AG to apply the law without regards to persons or property or circumstances, and it did not turn as the reality of duty.

In the case of Orsini, it is quite the opposite. The manifestation of ignorance about principles and concepts in his rhetoric confirmed to satisfy the curiosity of the ratepayers in that CUC should expect the wrong that is storming their ways. These are bureaucrats in their positions, needless to say that former Judge Jose S. Dela Cruz explained well. Is there corruption made or in the making here? Just think about it, when it does the power of public audit is a revered tool to keeping those in our government on their heels and toes. Speak out and make a difference. Otherwise, our government will be no more than equal to the democracy of the pygmies in South America.

For Orsini, he has started an event at CUC, thanks for his awkward participation and involvement. The public audit process must apply at CUC so that all of us can check and balance the checks and balances of CUC. By its rate payers who actually are the principal owners of this public supplier of potable water, waste water treatment that is returned to the marine environment, and uninterrupted electricity to CUC's coverage areas, asking question should not be viewed as an intrusion to normalcy at CUC. CUC has reorganized itself when it approved the organizational chart for its Wastewater Division. Sanctioning an action by the board on a piecemeal alignment of its enterprise is something new and perhaps Orsini should give such details and sources that give this strategy and approach its useful order and credible benchmarks. This brings back the scenario of the Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution that the elected AG instituted a wrong action by keeping the CNMI people at bay. By ignoring to engage in public audit for the situation the elected AG precipitated the wrong.

CUC is regulated by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission. It has service coverage of a given square miles to include the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. In these service coverage areas include infrastructure and superstructure invested by CUC in water and sewer lines pipes CUC used to pump potable water and treated sewage, and power generating plants to make electricity. All the capital, manpower, and material resources utilized by CUC comprised what CUC is to water, wastewater, and electricity in the CNMI. The disclosure by Orsini that the board had reorganized the Wastewater Division signaled that CUC is reforming its enterprise. The rule in the Administrative Procedures Act may have been violated before the reorganization took effect is problem and unless Orsini knows that law is fundamental matter to regulated action committed by the CUC Board, there is no more to say about this anomaly. This matter and other in reserve for the next episode in the public au-

meeting at, e.g., a village fiesta. Acquaintances are renewed almost instantly including extending a hand to our downtrodden brothers and sisters.

Comedy: The claim by the former DPS commissioner of poor eyesight in the alleged sex abuse of a minor had me tummy chuckling. I mean he came back for seconds and still hasn't seen the poor creature before him? Or was the back seat of the police truck too dark?

Public perception of this issue has definitely spread like toxic tidings throughout the community. At a grocery store, a friend asked, "JR, are you 15?" I instantly heard chuckles all over the store! Let the legal system dispose of it.

The NMI government hasn't paid its utility bill yet it has lights and air-conditioners humming daily. When I incurred delinquency I was disconnected. Interesting that we both are users of the same power source! Halo? Everybody home?

At the Smiling Cove Marinas were posted signs declaring,

dit discourse relating to Orsini's role as a change agent in CUC will find its way to fruition in the media.

For discussion: How can Orsini make good sense of the information that attempts to communicate with the ratepayers of our CUC? Should he be clarifying what CUC functions are that places all the capital, manpower, and material resources at its disposal and command. In order to explain the ill-conceived organization chart approved by the board a few weeks ago, he turned a blind eye to this situation. The board by no means has the capacity and technical knowledge to engage in human resources management matters. On the other hand, he confidently acknowledged about an apprenticeship program he engaged with the NMTI and ready to go in a few days this month. Does CUC have such a program? Caveat to Orsini, it is best to say that material unimpeachable facts about a program within CUC does not exist, and challenging a board action should come with your job. But, to display that you don't know that you don't know is your problem, and frankly yours to keep.

For Orsini, does he think CUC must be organized by its integrative functions inclusive of elements such as its: information technology, employee services (human resources), customer services, finance, treatment, operations and maintenance, engineering, administrative staff, and board of directors? If these functional areas are key premises, then all of the events that causes actions within CUC are sanctioned and structured. And, when you engage a public audit process, you have teeth to bite. Otherwise, you will be the subject of ridicule just the same as the board is being examined by ordinary people. Show your knowledge and apply it well to situations within CUC that commands your well-nourished and purposeful impact. The rhetoric by Orsini does not give credence to an ailing enterprise of our CUC.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kanat Tabla

ADA supports sugar tax bill

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) supports the intent of the CNMI's Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax Bill, intended to promote diabetes prevention and encourage healthy behaviors. Since 1980, the number of adults living with diabetes has almost quadrupled to 422 million as reported by the World Health Organization in the most recent global report on diabetes. The report further calls upon governments to ensure that people are able to make healthy choices and that health systems are able to diagnose, treat, and care for persons with diabetes.

Comprehensive approaches, in this instance through statute, are necessary to combat what has now become an epidemic. Although other culprits contribute to the increase in obesity and type 2 diabetes, empty calorie, sugar-sweetened beverages surely play a large role. Much work has yet to be done, and no single legislation will solve the diabetes or other health problems, but taxing a major contributor is a great first step in environments saturated with sugary drinks.

The ADA applauds the efforts of the CNMI; we are confident that this bill will effectuate positive changes to reduce the social and economic burden of obesity and diabetes in the islands and encourage other territories and states to follow.

Lawrence Duenas, LJ
Associate director, Development + Community Health Strategies

"No Fishing." Yet folks stand there casting their fishing poles. I was tempted to take their pictures. Later, I talked to one of them who said he needed it for supper and lunch the next day at work. I decided otherwise. There's a human side to most everything we do. Nah! When it comes down to real needs screw regulations!

Though she meant well when she visited an uncle at the ICU, I still couldn't understand the advice she unloaded on the family. Said she, "Let's accept it because it's His disposition." She's saying my uncle would die as though she just finished doing skype conferencing with the Lord. Dumb head!

A friend who's never eaten at a restaurant was asked how would he like his eggs. He looked up at the waitress and said, "I like it very much." The waitress wasn't sure what to make of it.

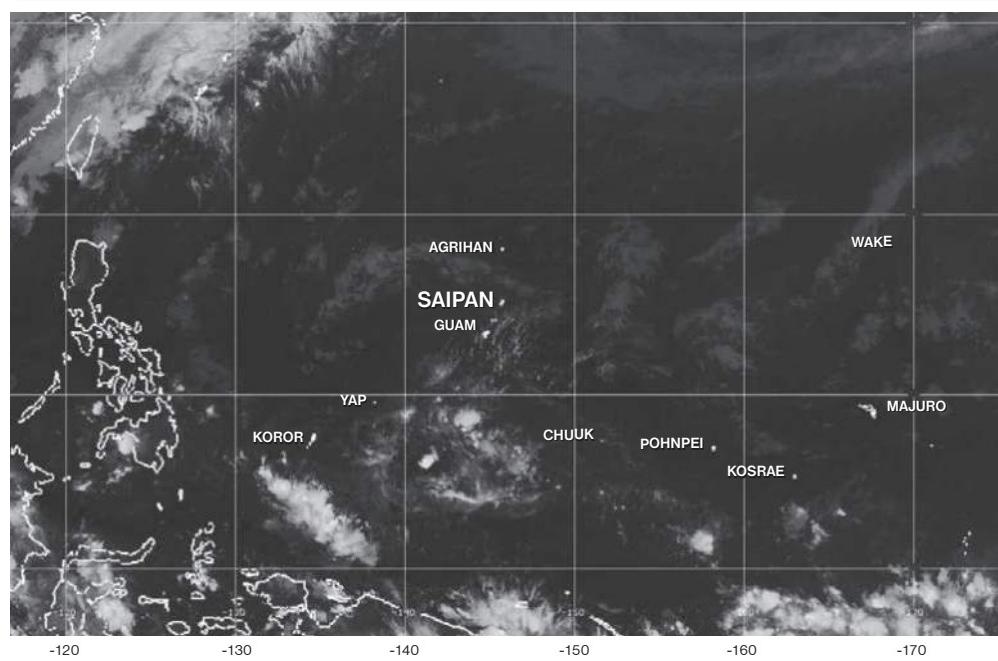
My auntie said she has to go to CUC to pay her "Ulithi" bill. Ulithi? Isn't Ulithi in Yap State in the FSM? Or is the error known as Chamorro-Englis?

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly sunny with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°	▲ 88° ▼ 76°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends east-northeastward from 3N130E to a weak circulation centered southeast of Yap near 6N141E then heads southeastward to end near EQ149E. Scattered showers are found southwest of Koror within 80 miles of a line from 5N131E to EQ137E farther east. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring east of Yap between 10N and 4N from 140E to 147E. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers south of Pohnpei and Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 1N157E to 4N168E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers west of the Marianas within 70 miles of a line from 14N134E to 18N138E to 17N142E. Another trade-wind disturbance east of the Marianas is producing scattered showers between 20N and 14N from 151E to 154E. Scattered showers associated with a third trade-wind disturbance are present north of Pohnpei between 15N and 12N from 155E to 160E. Cloudiness and scattered showers accompanying a fourth trade wind disturbance are located primarily northeast of Wake Island within 60 miles of a line from 21N168E to 23N169E to 24N174E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia	
Guam And Rota	Showers ▲ 87 ▼ 80
Palau	Partly Cloudy ▲ 90 ▼ 78
Yap	Thunderstorms ▲ 90 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms ▲ 87 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy ▲ 87 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms ▲ 85 ▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms ▲ 84 ▼ 79

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
4:42 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
9:49 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
4:52 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
11:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:57 AM	6:33 PM
Tuesday	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Thursday	5:55 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	5:55 AM	6:34 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	9:03 PM	7:59 AM
Tuesday	9:52 PM	8:45 AM
Wednesday	10:42 PM	9:34 AM
Thursday	11:32 PM	10:24 AM
Friday		11:16 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 21, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/			



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-006

SR-1 LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT (S-11-015)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-1 Sewer Lift Station in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general, of the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-1 Sewer Lift Station.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of the wet well, remove existing pumps and appurtenances and install new pumps, guide rails, control panel, valves, replacement of pipes and fittings, temporary wastewater bypass system, installation of new fence and gate, and other related work.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 14, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-006, SR-1 Lift Station Rehabilitation Project", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 03, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email birhen.martinez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-16-007

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE (CUC ROTA)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for CUC Administration and Operation in Rota, CNMI.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section (Saipan, Tinian or Rota), by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$20.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for 2:00 PM (ChST) on April 15, 2016 at the CUC Rota Administration Office in Sinapalo Village, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC RFP -16-007, Lease of Office Space (CUC Rota)" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 10, 2016**.

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponent due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Proponent's preparation of a proposal under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proponents for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the Proponent awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The Proponent awarded a contract shall comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-010

TINIAN WATER SYSTEM PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the installation of pressure reducing stations and installation of 10-in PVC Waterline Project in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the installation of approximately 1400 linear feet of 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRVs), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **240 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **April 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-010, Tinian Water System Pressure Improvements Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 22, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-012

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$80.00** for one IFB package set.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-012, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials, Saipan, CNMI" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 19, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with the copy of the submission.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 2, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostimo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email joseph.crisostimo@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAM
Purchasing Officer

US flag dedicated to Jordan flown on Capitol building

A flag purchased with the assistance of Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) by former Saipan lawyer and windsurfer Timothy MB Farrell flies over the U.S. Capitol building in honor of the passing of Ann Jordan, a dear friend and fellow windsurfer.

Farrell was an associate of Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman when he had a private practice. Farrell now lives and works in the District of Columbia representing MBI Health Services, LLC, a group of health clinics that serve the District east of the Anacostia River. A master

gardener, he volunteers his weekends at the National Botanic Garden and is a lector at the National Shrine. Farrell published the first commercially available CNMI bar review outline and was the first to appeal a case from the CNMI Supreme Court to the U.S. Supreme Court.

According to the congressman's website, flags are available in different sizes and fabrics. All flag purchases include a dedication message, which may be customized for the recipient. New flags can be flown over the Capitol if requested for an additional

charge. Purchasers may request a specific flying date, but due to weather and varying demand, no dates can be guaranteed. Flags flown over the Capitol include a certificate, which may be personalized for a particular person, event, or organization.

In this case, the weather cooperated and the flag was flown on the same day Ann Jordan was buried. The dedication, in this case reads: "One of the best water women I have ever known. A great windsurfer and paddler, she was taken before her time and will be missed."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The late Ann Jordan, co-owner of Marianas Coffee and a long-time resident of Saipan, is honored with the flying of this particular U.S. flag in the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

"She knew her port from her starboard," said Farrell.

Ann Jordan was married to Chuck Jordan. In addition to being an avid water woman, Ann Jordan and her husband also enjoyed coffee and founded the Marianas Coffee Company. The popular brand can be found all over the Mariana Islands and is loved by locals and tourists alike. (PR)



Bridge Investment conducts in-house trainings



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Bridge Investment Group heavy equipment operators attend the crane safety awareness video training.

the initiative to continuously remind the employees about their safety while working in addition to ensuring that the right personal protective equipment are available and provided on a daily basis.

They also provide trainings on areas in the construction industry. Some of the trainings that have been completed are employee fire and safety awareness, aerial lift video training for those who operate the boom and scissor lifts, basic forklift safety training for those who operate the forklift trucks, and crane safety and awareness training for the operators and signalmen who are involved in the operation of the crane. The employees were handed out an OSHA approved lami-

nated hand signal cards for all crane operators and signal persons.

All the employees who participated in the various trainings, took and passed written tests after each training sequence and will be receiving certificates reflecting their completion of the in-house training program.

"I found the proper handling of fire extinguishers training very helpful. I always thought there was only one type of fire extinguisher for all kinds of fire hazards. Now I know better, so thank you to the BIG fire and safety officers!" said administrative assistant Rochelle Cruz

BIG strives for their employees to be knowledgeable and comply with all safety protocols so that they may be able to properly and safely respond to potential hazards and most of all to go home safely to their families at the end of each work day. (PR)

SAN JOSE, Tinian—The Bridge Investment Group has made the safety of their employees a priority. In an effort to educate employees on the safest work practices and the most updated OSHA standards and safety training for their personal health and safety on the jobsite, the safe-

ty department is designated and tasked to ensure that all procedures and regulations are met. The United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration determines if the proper procedures are met by the company.

The safety department takes

sustain the program," said Apatang.
"It is a way my wife, Vicki,

our children, and I give back to the community that we love so much, and we are very happy that the program will benefit from it," added Dela Cruz. (PR)

PSS co-op official to speak at SHRM April meeting

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter will be joined by Chris Tenorio, coordinator of the CNMI Public School System Co-operative Education & Training Program, to discuss the benefit of the Co-op program at the April general membership meeting.

Tenorio will provide an introduction to the co-op education program and how it helps develop student core academic skills through application in real work situations. This program will be of special interest to all HR professionals and managers, showing how working with the Co-operative Education program can assist in building capacity in our youth workforce. Tenorio will be accompanied by two students who will provide brief testimonies of their experiences with the co-op program.

This lunch meeting will be held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's on Thursday, April 28, 2016, from 11:30am to 1:30pm. This presentation is open to the public and will be an invaluable opportunity for employers and HR profes-

sionals and staff to better understand the value to our community of the Co-operative Education and Training program. Tenorio will provide an opportunity for questions.

The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members.

Seats are limited, so reserve a seat by contacting Pina De Leon Guerrero by e-mail at pinadlg.shrm@gmail.com or by texting 285-7462 or Penny Jones by e-mail at penny.jones@hyattsaipan.com or by telephone at 323-5868.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM has more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries, and more than 575 affiliated chapters. The NMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization.

For more information about the NMI Chapter, you can visit their website at <http://nmichapter.shrm.org>. (PR)

Dela Cruz family donates to Mayor's Office

The family of Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz, DVM, donated a check worth \$1,500 to the Saipan Mayor's Office last week. Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and SMO special assistant Henry Hofsneider received the check.

"I made a pledge to the staff of the Saipan dog control program to donate to the program, and I am here to deliver on my promise," said Dela Cruz, whose family is one of the most generous and caring residents of the CNMI.

Apatang again thanked the Dela Cruz family for being a caring friend to the needs of the people of Saipan.

"We are very fortunate to have a friend who cares for the people of Saipan and an important program of the mayor's office that promotes the safety, health, and welfare of the people. Your generous contribution will



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz, center, hands over a check worth \$1,500 to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, right, as Saipan Mayor's Office special adviser Henry Hofsneider looks on.

Imperial Pacific names high-profile advisers from US

Hong Kong-listed Imperial Pacific International Holdings, Ltd. has established a three member advisory committee to provide the firm's management with "sound strategic and tactical advice."

The initial members of the committee are all former high-profile individuals in the United States' political scene. They are former Pennsylvania governor Edward Rendell, former New York governor David

Paterson, and former director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Louis Freeh.

The three men have been appointed members of the company's advisory committee with effect from Wednesday, Imperial Pacific stated.

"The main function of the advisory committee is to pro-



vide the management of the company with sound strategic and tactical advice on issues that the group may face from time to



Imperial Pacific added: "The board has determined that the establishment of the advisory committee's corporate governance."



mass tables in the first quarter. The company started the construction of a \$500-million casino resort—the "Grand Mariana"—in mid-2015. According to Imperial Pacific, the venue will feature 350 hotel rooms, 15 villas, more than 200 gaming tables, 400-plus slot machines, several restaurants, a beach club, and a night club. The Grand Mariana is expected to open in the first quarter of 2017. (GGRASIA)

MCS Theatre Club presents 'For Realz'

This week, Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club brings to the stage "For Realz," an original dramatic comedy written by the club and directed by club veteran and 2015 AlumKnight Aysia Adele Rosalia Duenas Santos.

"For Realz" will simulate a reunion show for a fake reality TV show of the same name and follows the conflict between two rival girl cliques at a school. The production will focus on a number of issues that teen girls face on a daily basis: Cyberbullying, relationships, and suicide, to name a few.

It was important for Santos to address such issues. "I hope to raise awareness, especially with teen girls, because the stories we tell come from their lives." She added, "I also hope that since the stories we tell reach some solutions, that it will also help others find solutions to their own problems."

As a reunion special, the production will rotate back and forth between stage performances and film clips from the TV show, both of which



Representing one of the cliques in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club production of "For Realz," from left, Elyssa Mendez, Rosa Castro, Rosalia Pangalinan, Dayna Macaranas, and Maria Terlaje.



Representing one of the cliques in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club production of "For Realz," from left, Monica Usi, Theresa Zheng, and Angela Jun.

were developed organically through improv exercises with the cast. Mount Carmel School president and Theatre Club advisor Galvin Deleon Guerrero said that the production's innovative format was inspired by productions directed and produced by local author and dramatist, Barbara Sher.

"Having worked with Barbara on similar productions, I was inspired to see if our students could pull off her realistic and semi-improvised approach to drama."

"For Realz" will feature an ensemble cast of mostly freshmen and sophomores: Rosa Castro, Quina Flores, Angela Jun, Dayna Macaranas, Elyssa Mendez, Rosalia Pangalinan, Maria Terlaje, Monica Usi, and Theresa Zheng. The show will also feature a cameo appearance by 2006 AlumKnight, Theatre Club veteran, and school teacher John Del Rosario, who will play the show's host.

"For Realz" is being presented as part of the Theatre Club's 20th anniversary, and marks the club's 39th production since its founding in 1996.

The club will conclude its anniversary celebration with a rock musical adaptation of William Shakespeare's "As You Like It" at the end of May.

"For Realz" will run this Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29, at Pacific Islands

advised.

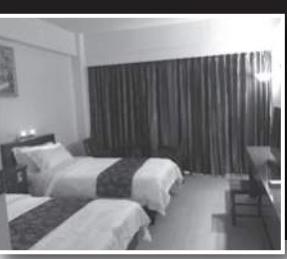
A portion of the proceeds will go toward efforts to curb cyberbullying. The show is made possible by generous support from Tribe Marianas and Pacific Islands Club. For more information, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. (PR)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that a Special Board Meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, April 27, 2016 1:00 p.m. at the NMHC Tinian Field Office Conference Room, San Jose, Tinian**. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Garapan Annex
- IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- V. ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **EDWARD C. SABLON**
Chairman of the Board

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 02-2016

Opening date: April 21, 2016 **Closing date:** May 6, 2016

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota) (1) AOA/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota) (1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian) (1) AOA/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian) (1) Human Resource Specialist (Saipan) (1) Accounts Clerk-I (Saipan) (2) ARFF Trainee (Saipan) 	Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office is no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 6, 2016 .
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Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For additional information, please contact the Ms. Addy C. Manahane, by email at cpa.acmanahane@gmail.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

Business

Bad week for German automakers

WOLFSBURG, Germany (AP)—It's been a bad week for German automakers.

Volkswagen said Friday that a diesel emissions-cheating scandal would cost it an astounding \$18.2 billion just for 2015, while Daimler revealed that U.S. authorities are sniffing around its tailpipes.

Both companies saw a niche with U.S. buyers who wanted performance, gas mileage and clean air. So they marketed their diesels as alternatives to boring hybrids.

But there is growing evidence that neither was able to back up the claims without violating pollution standards. Some management experts put the blame partly on ambitious, top-down corporate structures.

VW already has admitted to programming diesel cars so they pass U.S. emissions tests in labs but spew illegal amounts of pollution on real roads. On Thursday, Daimler said the U.S. Justice Department asked the company to investigate irregularities in diesel emissions in its Mer-

Trans-Atlantic trade deal in focus when Obama visits Germany

BERLIN (AP)—When President Barack Obama opens the world's largest industrial fair in the northern German city of Hannover on Sunday, he'll be leading a delegation of American companies hoping to conquer new markets abroad. He'll also be trying to complete one of his presidency's main pieces of unfinished business—a trans-Atlantic trade pact.

Officials in Washington and Brussels are trying to clinch key parts of the deal before the end of the year, after which a new U.S. president and election campaigns in major European countries could complicate negotiations.

Proponents of the agreement—known as the Trans-



Joyce Ertel Hulbert, owner of a 2015 Volkswagen Golf TDI, holds a sign while interviewed outside of the Phillip Burton Federal Building in San Francisco, Thursday, April 21, 2016.

cedes brand vehicles.

Steve Berman, a Seattle attorney who has sued Daimler over Mercedes diesel pollution, said both German automakers saw a niche in the U.S. for high-performing green cars.

"They saw the opportunity," he said. "They weren't able to live up to their words but they went ahead anyway."

There also could be some complicity on the part of European governments. Karl Brauer

er, senior analyst for Kelley Blue Book, said governments, as well as Mercedes, VW and other automakers, have known for years that diesels could meet emissions standards in the lab, but not on real roads.

"This was the understood, if not documented, agreement between the automakers and the European governments," Brauer said. "So it was not that egregious to approach U.S. emissions with the same philosophy."

Trade unions, nationalists and green groups have lobbied hard against the deal, claiming that it will drive down wages, erode consumer protection and environmental standards.

The discussions, due to resume on Monday in New York, have come under criticism for the secretive manner in which they've been conducted. National lawmakers are only allowed to view draft documents in special reading rooms and are forbidden from talking about the documents with experts, the media or their constituents.

Proposals to create dispute settlement tribunals have also stoked fears.

More than 100,000 people protested in Berlin in November against the proposed pact. On Saturday, police estimated some 35,000 marched against it in Hannover, carrying placards with slogans such as "Yes We

Can—Stop TTIP!" Organizers put the turnout at 90,000.

As we have said previously, these cases have never been about setting a court precedent; they are about law enforcement's ability and need to access evidence on devices pursuant to lawful court orders and search warrants," Justice Department spokeswoman Emily Pierce said in a statement Friday.

The Justice Department had sought to compel the Cupertino, California-based Apple to cooperate in the

drug case, even though it had recently dropped a fight to compel Apple to help break into an iPhone used by a gunman in a December attack in San Bernardino that killed 14 people. In that case, a still-unidentified third-party came forward with a technique that managed to open the phone. That entity has not been named, and the Justice Department has not revealed the method used.

Representatives for Apple did not immediately respond to a request for comment Friday night.

Feds say they've accessed phone at center of Apple data case

NEW YORK (AP)—The U.S. Justice Department said it has withdrawn a request to force Apple to reveal data from a cellphone linked to a New York drug case after someone provided federal investigators with the phone's passcode.

Federal prosecutors said in a letter to U.S. District Judge Margo Brodie that investigators were able to access the iPhone late Thursday night after using the passcode.

The government said it no longer needs Apple's assistance to unlock the iPhone and

Nation

Michelle Obama urges grads to vote to protect civil rights

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—First lady Michelle Obama told graduates of a historically black university in Mississippi on Saturday that "the power of voting is real and lasting" and they need to cast ballots to protect civil-rights advances made by previous generations.

She said many young African-Americans have disenfranchised themselves because only about 20 percent of them voted in the 2014 midterm elections.

"You can hashtag all over Instagram and Twitter, but those social medial movements will disappear faster than a Snapchat if you're not also registered to vote," Obama told an estimated 35,000 people, including 800 graduates of Jackson State University.

She said if people fail to exercise the fundamental right to vote, rights will be under threat.

911 caller who found 2 of 8 bodies: 'There's blood all over'

rural southern Ohio.

Authorities continued the scramble to determine who targeted that clan and why. Investigators said they interviewed more than 30 people in hopes of finding leads in the deaths of the seven adults and the teenage boy whose bodies were found Friday at homes southwest of Piketon. They completed work at the crime scenes Saturday.

"I think my brother-in-law's dead," she said, her voice rising as she adds later that it looks like someone has "beat the crap out of them."

"I think they're both dead," she said before breaking down into sobs, according to one of two 911 call recordings released Saturday by the state attorney general's office.

The calls were released a day after eight family members were found dead with gunshots to the head at four properties in

Daughter says father made threats day before fatal shootings

ATLANTA (AP)—The daughter of a northeast Georgia man suspected of shooting five people to death before killing himself says her father was a "ticking time bomb."

Lauren Hawes told The Associated Press on Saturday that she, her mother Angela Dent and her 1-year-old daughter hid in a neighbor's house—barely escaping with their lives—while her father, Wayne Anthony Hawes, 50, went on a bloody rampage and killed five people, including her grandmother and cousin.

"He made threats before, but we never thought it would be at this capacity," Lauren Hawes said. "He's

been kind of a ticking time bomb if you want to put in a few words."

Capt. Andy Shedd of the Columbia County Sheriff's Office said in a statement that the Friday night shootings stemmed from a domestic dispute that left three men and two women dead at two separate locations within about a mile of each other.

The body of shooting suspect Hawes was recovered Saturday by authorities in his home in Appling.

Lauren Hawes, 26, confirmed that the bloodshed was connected to a domestic dispute between her parents: her mother had walked out on her father just a week ago. Angela Dent had left

just about African-Americans. It's about all Americans."

She noted that Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, where she spoke under clear blue skies, was built in the 1950s and was only used by white football teams until 1967, when Jackson State and Grambling State became the first black teams to play there. She also noted that in 1962, the stadium was the site of "what was essentially a pro-Jim Crow rally" with University of Mississippi fans waving Confederate flags and singing a song called, "Never, No Never" to protest the admission of the university's first black student.

Obama cited the names of Emmett Till, a black 14-year-old from Chicago who was killed in Mississippi in 1955 for whistling at a white woman, and Medgar Evers, a state NAACP leader assassinated in Jackson in 1963.

were identified Saturday as 40-year-old Christopher Rhoden Sr.; his 16-year-old son, Christopher Rhoden Jr.; 44-year-old Kenneth Rhoden; 38-year-old Gary Rhoden; 37-year-old Dana Rhoden; 20-year-old Clarence "Frankie" Rhoden; 20-year-old Hannah Gilley; and 19-year-old Hanna Rhoden.

It appeared some of the family members were killed as they slept, including Hanna Rhoden, who was in bed with her newborn baby nearby, authorities said. The infant was 4- or 5-days old, authorities said. The infant, Hannah Gilley's 6-month-old baby, and 1 other small child were not hurt.

before—but this time, she took her possessions with her to prevent Hawes from destroying them as he had done in the past.

After Dent's departure, Wayne Hawes bottomed out emotionally.

"He's done things that were questionable in the past, but never to this extent. This is very surprising. We thought he could possibly hurt himself, but not others," said Lauren Hawes.

The rampage began Friday evening, when sheriff deputies responded to a home at about 8 p.m. and found three victims. Authorities then were called to a second home nearby, where two other victims were found.

Asia

North Korea claims successful test of submarine-fired missile

SEOUL, South Korea

(AP)—North Korea said Sunday that it successfully test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine and warned of its growing ability to cut down its enemies with a “dagger of destruction.” South Korea couldn’t immediately confirm the claim of success in what marks Pyongyang’s latest effort to expand its military might in face of pressure by its neighbors and Washington.

Hours before the announcement, South Korean military officials said the North fired what appeared to be a ballistic missile from a submarine off its eastern coast. The South’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said the projectile traveled about 30 kilometers (19 miles) Saturday evening. That’s a much shorter than the typical distance of a submarine-launched ballistic missile, which can fly at least 300

kilometers (186 miles).

A successful test from a submarine would be a worrying development because mastering the ability to fire missiles from submerged vessels would make it harder for outsiders to detect what North Korea is doing before it launches, giving it the potential to surprise its enemies.

While South Korean experts say it’s unlikely that North Korea currently possesses an operational submarine that can fire multiple missiles, they acknowledge that the North is making progress on such technology.

In a typical example of overblown rhetoric, the North’s Korean Central News Agency said leader Kim Jong Un observed from a test facility as the ballistic missile surged from a submarine and spewed out a “massive stream of flames” as it soared into the sky. It said the missile met all

technical thresholds.

The KCNA report said that after the test Kim declared that the North now has another strong nuclear strike method and also the ability to stick a “dagger of destruction” into the heads of its enemies, South Korea and the United States, at any time.

The KCNA report didn’t say when or where the recent test-firing took place. South Korean officials said the launch on Saturday took place near the North Korean coastal town of Sinpo, where analysts have previously detected efforts by the North to develop submarine-launched ballistic missile systems.

The North last test-launched a submarine-launched ballistic missile on Dec. 25, but that test was seen as failure, the South’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said. The North first claimed of a successful submarine-launched missile test in May last year.

N. Korea to halt nuke tests if US stops exercises

NEW YORK (AP)—North Korea is ready to halt its nuclear tests if the United States suspends its annual military exercises with South Korea, the North Korean foreign minister told The Associated Press in an interview in which he also warned that his country won’t be cowed by international sanctions.

Just hours after North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine in its latest show of defiance at the U.S.-South Korea exercises, Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong defended the country’s right to

increase its military readiness.

“The escalation of this military exercise level has reached its top level. And I think it’s not bad—as the other side is going for the climax—why not us, too, to that level as well?” he said in his first interview Saturday with a Western news organization, at the North Korean diplomatic mission to the United Nations.

In response to the missile firing, the U.S. State Department announced early Sunday it was restricting Ri’s travel to U.N. functions only. “Due to the DPRK’s firing of a ballistic

missile this morning, we have determined it necessary to limit the travel of the visiting foreign minister and his delegation to only those places necessary for them to conduct their UN functions,” State Department spokesman John Kirby said.

Ri held firm to Pyongyang’s longstanding position that the U.S. drove his country to develop nuclear weapons as an act of self-defense. At the same time, he suggested that suspending the military exercises with Seoul could open the door to talks and reduced tensions.

also bought back nearly 700,000 guns from the public at a cost of \$390 million. Since then, the country has experienced only one case that meets the generally accepted definition of a mass shooting—four deaths in a single event—a 2014 incident in which a farmer shot his wife and three children before killing himself. Now a person living in America is around 10 times more likely to be killed by a gun than in Australia, and President Barack Obama has held up Australia’s strict gun laws as a good example after repeated mass shootings in the U.S.

PH mayor widens lead ahead of May 9 vote

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A tough-talking Philippine mayor has widened

his lead in a poll ahead of May 9 presidential elections, but analysts say his chances will likely be hurt by a storm of criticism over a rape joke and offensive remarks against foreign allies. Mayor Rodrigo Duterte of southern Davao city led with 34 percent of 4,000 respondents in the Pulse Asia survey released Sunday. Sen. Grace Poe followed with 22 percent in the survey commissioned by the ABS-CBN TV network. Pulse Asia President Ronald Holmes says the survey was concluded before Duterte’s remarks in which he joked he wanted to be the first to rape an Australian missionary who was killed by prisoners in a riot. He also told the U.S. and Australian ambassadors to shut up over the issue.

World

In Damascus, an uneasy stability boosts Assad

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—

Looking out from the Syrian capital these days, one can understand why President Bashar Assad would be in no hurry to make concessions at peace talks in Geneva, let alone consider stepping down should the war continue for a long time. Even if Assad’s forces have little chance of regaining large parts of the country in the near term, Russia’s military intervention changed the conflict’s course in their favor and has boosted their confidence.

“People are much more relaxed than before, we feel safer and more secure,” said Maha Arnouz, a student walking with a friend through the capital’s bustling Hamadiyah souk, located inside the old walled city.

Turkey hails ‘effective’ migrant deal as EU leaders visit

GAZIANTEP, Turkey

(AP)—Turkey’s prime minister said Saturday the number of migrants crossing into Greece illegally has dropped considerably, as proof that a much criticized migration deal between Turkey and the European Union is working.

Ahmet Davutoglu was speaking at a joint news conference with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and top European Union officials who traveled near Turkey’s border with Syria in a bid to promote the troubled deal with Turkey as they face increasing pressure to reassess the agreement. The group toured a refugee camp and inaugurated a child support center funded by the EU.

European Union Council President Donald Tusk said the EU plans to spend 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) on projects this summer to

“This drop shows the effectiveness of this joint mecha-

Death toll from Ecuador quake rises to 654

QUITO, Ecuador (AP)—

The death toll from last week’s magnitude-7.8 earthquake that flattened towns along Ecuador’s coast has risen to 654 with another 58 people missing, the government said Saturday.

The website of the secretariat for risk management said that 113 people had been rescued alive following the quake and more than 25,000 people remained in shelters.

The death toll from Ecuador’s quake has surpassed

nism,” Davutoglu said.

“Our priority was to stop the baby Aylans from washing up on the shores, and we have made great strides in this aim,” Davutoglu said, in reference to drowned 3-year-old Aylan Kurdi, whose images helped galvanize world attention on the plight of the migrants.

Human rights groups criticized the trip to what they call a “sanitized” refugee camp—and said EU officials should look further at the tens of thousands of Syrian refugees that are now blocked from entering Turkey.

Many have questioned the legality of the March 20 EU-Turkey deal allowing for the deportation of migrants who don’t qualify for asylum in Greece back to Turkey.

Davutoglu said the number of migrants crossing illegally into Greece had dropped from around 6,000 per day in November to around 130 daily since the beginning of this month.

“This drop shows the effectiveness of this joint mecha-

that of Peru’s 2007 temblor, making it the deadliest quake in South America since one in Colombia in 1999 killed more than 1,000 people.

Hundreds of aftershocks have rattled the country since last Saturday night’s quake and Ecuadoreans are still sleeping outside and struggling to find food and water. Aid is arriving from abroad but relief workers have warned of delays in water distribution and said mosquito-borne illness

could spread through the camps.

President Rafael Correa has said the quake caused \$3 billion in damage and warned that the reconstruction effort will take years. His administration is temporarily raising taxes to fund the recovery. Even before the quake, Ecuador was bracing for a bout of austerity, with the International Monetary Fund forecasting the economy would shrink 4.5 percent this year.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Renewed gun debate in Australia 20 years after mass shooting

PORT ARTHUR, Australia

(AP)—Carolyn Loughton still carries a bullet in her shoulder from one of the world’s worst mass shootings that killed her daughter 20 years ago and galvanized Australia to drastically clamp down on guns. Loughton threw her body over her 15-year-old daughter Sarah, but could not save her from a gunman with two semi-automatic assault rifles who methodically took headshots in a Port Arthur, Tasmania, cafe on April 28, 1996, killing 35 people. In response, the Australian government severely restricted ownership of semi-automatic firearms, pump-action shotguns and other rapid-fire weapons. It

Health & Fitness

He swapped heavy weights for lighter ones, and is in better shape than ever

By LESLIE BARKER
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

When John Gossett first began working out, he went for the heavy-weights, low-reps approach.

"I liked the way I felt and the way I looked," says Gossett, 78, who lives in Dallas. "I packed on 35 pounds of mostly muscle over the years, but at great cost in injuries."

One day, he was doing lunges while holding "way too heavy dumbbells," when a personal trainer saw him "staggering and limping." She told him his gait and bal-

ance were off, and to put them down before he hurt himself. Then she asked him to balance for 30 seconds on one leg. He lasted three seconds.

With that, his workout changed. The trainer was Linda Knowles, who taught him what he calls "the folly" of how he was working out. Now, he's all but pain-free and can stand for two-minute periods on each leg.

Typical week of workouts: Mondays and Fridays, I work out for an hour at Linda's Forever Fit. Wednesdays, I do an hour of balance exercises at home. Tuesdays, Thursdays

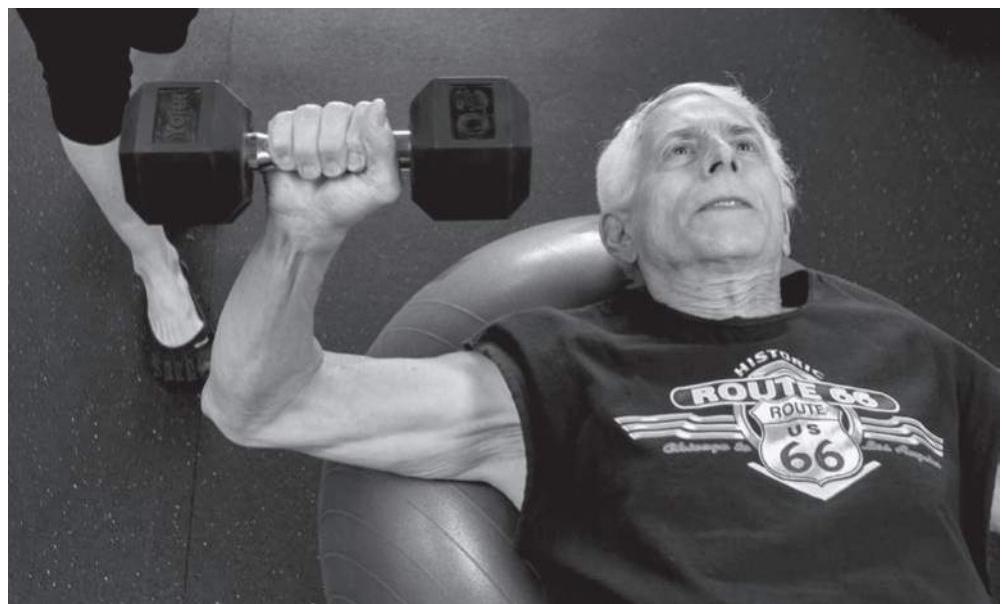
and Saturdays, I run for 30 minutes; Saturdays, I follow that up with an hourlong massage. Sundays, I do yard work.

If I had just 20 minutes to exercise, I would: Do balance exercises. If falls don't concern you, you just aren't active enough and you haven't lived long enough.

What gets in the way of my workout? Practically nothing. Well, tornadoes. Maybe.

Proudest fitness moments: In the old days, out-power-lifting a younger, bigger guy next to me. Dumb and dumber.

Fitness goals: To continue healing all my injuries from



TNS

John Gossett performs an exercise to help his balance at Linda's Forever Fit in Dallas on Friday, April 8, 2016.

years of too-heavy lifting, to maximize my functional fitness and balance, and to eat as healthfully as possible.

Fitness mentor: Linda Knowles, owner and certified personal trainer at Linda's Forever Fit in Dallas.

Favorite healthy food: Vegan-to-go meals from Nature's Plate on Northwest Highway in Dallas.

Favorite indulgence: Ice cream. Nonvegan ice cream. What can I say? It's an indulgence, right?

Three items you'll always find in my refrigerator: Nature's Plate dinners, unsweetened almond milk and chia seeds.

What I'd tell people who want to follow my routine: Functional fitness is the

best kind of exercise, vegan is the best kind of food and massage therapy can fix a surprising number of body problems. It's never too late to change the way you work out, what you eat or how you address your injuries, pains or disabilities.

What my workout says about me: Too soon older, just in time smarter.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

Vincent Saimon Tagabuel

"Weischiihmal"

In his new life he now joins his:
Grandparents:

†Juan Malus Tagabuel
†Kirino James Saimon
†Auria Olopai Tagabuel
†Jacinta Esther Defang Saimon

Mother: †Josephine Saimon Tagabuel

His loving memories will forever
be in the hearts of his:

Father: Vicente Olopai Tagabuel
Brothers: Roland Victor S. Tagabuel
Christopher L. Tagabuel
Ferdinand Micah Tagabuel
John Henry I. Tagabuel (Michelle)
Darrel Jason Tagabuel Roligat (Audrey)
Sisters: Jocelyn S. Tagabuel (Shaun F. Iguel)
Rosaleen L. Tagabuel
Kelly Jean Tagabuel Kileleman-Miyazaki (Shohta)
Norma N. Tagabuel

He will also be missed by numerous relatives and friends near and far.

On Tuesday, April 26, 2016, his remains will be transported from CHCC (Morgue) at 7:00am to the Tagabuel residence in Chalan Laulau (across Coca-Cola) for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11:00am San Jose Parish, followed by interment services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are sincerely appreciated.

Vicente Olopai Tagabuel, Children and Family

In Peace

TAKEO NENA GEORGE

born on March 08, 1942, in Kosrae, FSM,
sailed to his new life in God's Paradise
on April 18, 2016 in Honolulu, HI.

Masses of intention are offered daily at 6:00 a.m. and the Holy Rosary is prayed at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Last respects and funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.

Your thoughts and especially your prayers are sincerely appreciated.

*Magdalena Sablan (Pepero)
George and Family*

Life & Style

Royalty, Obama & fans mark 400 years since Shakespeare died

LONDON (AP)—If all the world's a stage, William Shakespeare is its architect.

The playwright died 400 years ago Saturday, but remains the world's most famous writer, living on through endlessly reinterpreted plays and globally known characters, including the tormented prince Hamlet and the star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet.

The long-dead Bard is one of Britain's leading cultural ambassadors, and the anniversary of his death on April 23, 1616, is being marked across Britain with parades, church

services and—of course—stage performances. After all, the play's the thing. (That's just one of scores of phrases that Shakespeare has given the English language).

U.S. President Barack

Obama took a break from political talks in London to tour Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on Saturday, listening to Hamlet's "To be or not to be" soliloquy and admiring the open-air venue—a recreation of the theater, built in 1599, where many of the Bard's plays were first performed.

The president met a Globe troupe that has taken "Ham-

let" on a two-year tour to almost 200 countries. They've performed Shakespeare's tragedy on a tennis court in Kabul, Afghanistan, in a Syrian refugee camp in Jordan and at the U.N. General Assembly in New York.

Dominic Dromgoole, the Globe's artistic director, said the world tour has taught him that Shakespeare "is a great aid to communication. He's a great way of helping people to encounter one another, and discover similarities and also discover differences."

"I think he has no agenda," Dromgoole said. "There's



President Barack Obama, 2nd left, greets actors on stage after watching them perform Shakespeare's Hamlet at the Globe Theatre in London, Saturday, April 23, 2016.

no particular drive within his work to say, this has to be worshipped or this has to be believed. He presents life, and he presents life with wit and brilliance and enchantment—but it's life. And everybody understands life."

The Globe also erected screens along the River Thames, showing short films of excerpts from all 37 of Shakespeare's plays, filmed in the locations where they were set: "King Lear" at the White Cliffs of Dover, "The Merchant of Venice" in the canal-crossed Italian city; "Timon of Athens" in front of the Parthenon.

In Humble Gratitude

The Family of the Late

**Zenaida Mae
Castro Javier**

wish to express our sincere appreciation to
all who joined us in our time of sorrow from the
untimely passing of our beloved Zenaida.
There are no words that can express our gratitude.
Special thanks goes out to the Techas, Mrs. Louise
DLG. Hofsneider & Mrs. Guadalupe R.
Hofsneider for leading the nightly rosaries;
St. Jude Parish Choir, Mr. Parker Yobei, and to
Father Rey Rozal, Father Ryan Jimenez, Father
Jason Granado and Father Jesse Reyes for
officiating the Mass of Christian Burial for our
beloved. To our beloved's relatives and friends
from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam and the U.S.,
thank you for your thoughts, prayers and support.
Zenaida may be gone, but the memories we
shared will live in our hearts forever.

Thank you yan Si Yu'us Ma'aase.

The Family

Tragedies will always be found in the things we love. And if we are not willing to see the beauty in losing something that means the world to us, then imagine how terrible it will be to live for them.

We must always welcome the end of all things. For sometimes, knowing nothing lasts forever, is the only way we can learn to fall in love with all the moments and all the people that are meant to take our breath away.

— r.m. drake

Prince family, friends bid a loving goodbye to pop icon

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Some of Prince's "most beloved" family, friends and musicians celebrated his life in a small, private service on Saturday after his remains had been cremated.

His publicist Yvette Noel-Schure said in a statement that the 57-year-old music superstar's family and friends gathered "in a private, beautiful ceremony" to say a loving goodbye.

The statement did not say where the service was held, but friends such as percussionist Sheila E. and bassist Larry Graham were seen Saturday entering Prince's suburban Minneapolis estate, Paisley Park. Prince's sister Tyka Nelson and brother-in-law Maurice Phillips also were seen on the grounds, as were catering trucks.

Hundreds of fans were gathered outside the estate, where a security fence was covered with purple balloons, flowers, signs and more honoring Prince, who both lived and recorded there. People emerged from the estate and handed out round purple boxes to some fans. Each box contained a handout with a color photo of



AP

In this Feb. 18, 1985 file photo, Prince performs at the Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

the late musician and a black T-shirt with "3121" printed on it in white—the numbers were the title of a Prince album.

Prince was found unresponsive in an elevator Thursday at Paisley Park, and an autopsy was done Friday. But authori-

ties have not released a cause of death and have said results could take days or weeks.

The publicist's brief statement repeated that the cause of Prince's death was unknown, and said autopsy results wouldn't be received for

at least four weeks.

The statement said the "final storage" of Prince's remains would be private and that a musical celebration would be held at a future date.

"We ask for your blessings and prayers of comfort for his

family and close friends at this time," the statement said.

Prince was last seen alive by an acquaintance who dropped him off at Paisley Park at 8 p.m. Wednesday, according to Carver County Sheriff Jim Olson. The "Purple Rain" star,

born Prince Rogers Nelson, was found by staff members who went to the compound in Chanhassen, about 20 miles outside Minneapolis, the next morning when they couldn't reach him by phone.

Emergency crews who answered the 911 call could not revive Prince, the sheriff said.

Celebrity website TMZ, citing unidentified sources, has reported that Prince was treated for an overdose of the powerful painkiller Percocet while traveling home from concerts in Atlanta last week. The site said his plane made an emergency landing April 15 in Moline, Illinois, where he was briefly hospitalized.

Representatives for Prince have not responded to requests from The Associated Press for comment on the reports of the emergency landing and overdose treatment, and Saturday's statement from his publicist did not address them.

Olson, the sheriff, and a medical examiner's office spokeswoman declined Friday to say whether prescription drugs were taken from the home after his death. Olson did say emergency workers did not administer Narcan, a drug they carry to counteract overdoses, when they responded to Paisley Park.

Prince's death came two weeks after he canceled concerts in Atlanta, saying he wasn't feeling well. He played a pair of makeup shows April 14 in that city, apologizing to the crowd shortly after coming on stage.

Early in the first show, he briefly disappeared from the stage without explanation. After about a minute he returned and apologized, saying he didn't realize how emotional the songs could be. He played the rest of the show without incident and performed three encores.

In the later show, he coughed a few times, though the show was again energetic.

Then came the reported emergency landing en route to Minnesota. The night after that, Prince hosted a dance party at Paisley Park, where some fans said he looked fine and seemed irked by reports of an illness. Prince didn't play except to tap out a few notes on a piano, and lingered only for a few minutes before disappearing.

Prince was slated to perform two shows earlier this week at the Fox Theatre in St. Louis but canceled last week because of health concerns.

Sheila E. has told the AP that Prince had physical issues from performing, citing hip and knee problems that she said came from years of jumping off risers and stage speakers in heels. But she said she hadn't talked directly with him in several months.

'He was family': Music star Prince stayed home in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Bob Dylan left Minnesota, but Prince never did.

When the music superstar died at age 57, it was in the same suburban Minneapolis studio compound where he had lived for years. He could have opted for the glamour of either coast but stayed home, where fans occasionally saw him in local nightclubs, a record store, or just bicycling near Paisley Park.

"He was everything here," said Mark Anderson, 43, a longtime fan who estimated he saw at least 30 Prince shows and would bring his teenage son from nearby Eagan to see Prince's occasional late-night jams at Paisley Park. "He was more than a musician. He was family."

"I think a lot of fans feel that way."

Crowds continued flocking Saturday to pay respects at Paisley Park. An autopsy was conducted Friday, but officials said it may be weeks before results are known. A group of Prince's "most beloved" family, friends and musicians celebrated his life in a small, private service on Saturday after his remains were cremated.

Prince's fame made Minnesota feel good about itself.

In the wake of his death, fans here have recalled how the Oscar and seven-time Grammy



A woman writes on memorial sheet adorned with the symbol Prince once used to identify himself outside Paisley Park in Chanhassen, Minn., Saturday, April 23, 2016.

winner put the sleek "Minneapolis Sound" of the 1980s on the national music map.

"When you think of Minneapolis, you automatically think of Prince," said Jen Boyles, 37, a longtime Twin Cities music journalist.

St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman was among thousands that turned up Thursday night outside of First Avenue, the downtown Minneapolis nightclub Prince made famous with his hit 1984 movie "Purple Rain" and where part of the movie was set and filmed.

"Think about what Prince has meant to so many people

across the globe, not to mention folks in the Twin Cities," Coleman told the Star Tribune. "Prince made us cool. Prince really made his mark from here."

Even the local sheriff, at a news conference on Prince's death, reminded reporters that the purple-loving megastar was, at heart, a local guy.

"This is a tragedy for all of us. To you, Prince Rogers Nelson was a celebrity. To us, he's a community member and a good neighbor," Carver County Sheriff Jim Olson said Friday.

Minnesota is a rich musical state that has produced Bob

Dylan, Judy Garland, Eddie Cochran and the Andrews Sisters. But they all moved away.

Bob Fuchs, the manager of Electric Fetus, a south Minneapolis record store where Prince would browse without fans bothering him, rated Prince equal to Dylan. Prince's decision to stay home, Fuchs said, made him special.

"As far as hometown musicians who still live here, that puts Prince at No. 1," he said.

Lars Larson, who worked as security for Paisley Park on and off since 2001, said he thinks Prince cherished small-town life.

"He had the freedom to do stuff here and not worry about paparazzi bothering him. I remember he would take trips to Dairy Queen in his BMW. I don't know if you can get away with that in Hollywood," Larson said.

A few years ago, Prince showed up with a guitar at First Avenue, where he frequently performed, to see the band Gayngs, the club's general manager, Nate Kranz, recalled. But instead of performing, Prince just watched from the stage, Kranz said.

Prince last performed at the club in 2007, but would stop by occasionally to see local acts, Kranz said.

Besides opening his 65,000-square-foot Paisley Park recording complex in 1987 in Chanhassen, a town of nearly 23,000 people about 20 miles southwest of Minneapolis, Prince also owned a lot of undeveloped land in the suburb, Mayor Denny Laufenburger said.

"Maybe to a certain extent he considered this a little bit of peaceful repose," Laufenburger said.

Heather McElhatton of Minneapolis, who worked as a set decorator for Prince video shoots at Paisley Park from 1988 to 1998, said Prince had his pick of locating his \$10 million studio but chose to remain in the Twin Cities.

Grieving, Sheila E. recounts her decades with Prince

NEW YORK (AP)—It was during a musical high—a rhapsodic rendition of “Purple Rain”—that Prince turned to his drummer, Sheila E., and asked her to marry him.

“In the midst of that song, you sometimes forget where you are,” Sheila E., a former percussionist and vocalist with Prince whose real name is Sheila Escovedo, said in an interview Friday from Minneapolis, where she’d flown upon hearing of Prince’s death.

“You’re playing and you close your eyes and you don’t realize that there are other people in the room. I opened my eyes and at that same moment he turned around because musically we had hit a place where we were at a high, and he proposed to me.”

The 58-year-old musician said she was coping with the loss of her former fiancé—the two never married, but had a

long collaboration—by trying to remember some of the more amusing times with Prince.

“Thirty-eight years of him and I being together, there’s just so many memories good and bad,” she said. “It’s a pit in my stomach and I’m sad and then (I) try to think of something that made me laugh so I can stop hurting.”

What memories make her laugh? “You know he was very competitive,” she said, “so him and I would battle each other on who’s going to be the best at anything, something. Of course I always tried to win, and when I did, it made him mad, and that was funny.” Like the time the two played basketball, and she beat—and talked about it.

“They wrote about it in one of the interviews, and when ... I went back to the studio he put me in a headlock and said, ‘Who said you won?’ and I said, ‘I did, and you know I did.’”

Sheila E. said Friday that she last spoke to Prince about eight months ago. She called him last week at his compound, Paisley Park, when she heard news reports of an emergency landing for medical treatment, but he was resting, and so she spoke to his drummer, Kirk Johnson, who said he would pass on her wishes, “but said he was good.”

She said that Prince, like many other performers, had often suffered physical pain from performing. But she said she had no knowledge of his taking painkillers. An autopsy was performed Friday on the 57-year-old musician; the medical examiner’s office said it won’t release its findings until all information was in, including results of toxicology tests.

“There was always something kind of bothering him, as it does all of us,” Sheila E. said when asked about Prince’s

physical health. “You know we’re like athletes, we train, and we get hurt all the time. We know all the years of him jumping off the risers and the speakers onstage in the heels, you know, (it) messed up his

hip and his knee, but he kept doing it because he loved doing it and it was something no one was doing.

But “he really took care of himself,” Sheila E. added. “He ate well, he ate better than

I did. I mean I tried to copy what he was doing.”

In the interview, Sheila E. reminisced about meeting Prince in 1978, backstage at a concert in San Francisco. “I had heard so much about him,” she said. She thought she needed to introduce herself, but he already knew who she was.

“Before I could get my name out he put his hand out and said, ‘I already know who you are. I’ve been following your career for a while.’ And so he was a fan already, and we became friends instantly and we started hanging out.”

They also collaborated for years, on songs like “Erotic City” and “The Glamorous Life.”

The fact that Prince took an interest in her career was nothing out of the ordinary for a musician who was always seeking to help other musicians, and was particularly known for boosting the careers of female musicians. Sheila E. said Prince was exceedingly generous in that way.

“Sometimes it was, ‘Let’s see how we can work together in the studio. Sometimes new music comes out of it and sometimes (it’s), let me help produce you because I can bring something really good out of you, that I don’t think you’re aware that you can do.’”

Kelly Ripa plans return to daytime talk show Tuesday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kelly Ripa is returning to her daytime talk show, ending an absence that followed word her co-host, Michael Strahan, will join “Good Morning America.”

Ripa will be back Tuesday on “Live With Kelly and Michael,” she said in an email to the show’s staff that was obtained by The Associated Press.

“I wanted to thank you all for giving me the time to process this new information,” Ripa wrote. “Your kindness, support, and love has overwhelmed me. We are a family and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday morning.”

Tuesday’s show will be the first time Ripa and Stra-

han are reunited on camera since last week’s announcement that the former football star will leave in September to work full time on ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

He’s worked a couple of days a week at “GMA” for the past two years, but he always has to leave midway through to head to the “Live with Kelly and Michael” studio on Manhattan’s upper West Side.

“Live” is in the ABC family, produced by parent Walt Disney Co., and it airs after “GMA” in most TV markets.

The former football star, who played with the New York Giants, will be joining the show’s regular cast of Robin Roberts, George Stephanopoulos, Lara Spencer,

Amy Robach and Ginger Zee.

Actress Ana Gasteyer was a last-minute replacement for Ripa when she failed to come to work last Wednesday, with Erin Andrews, the co-host of “Dancing With the Stars,” then stepping in. Actress Shay Mitchell of “Pretty Little Liars” was scheduled to co-host Monday.

Ripa’s unexplained absence came amid published reports that she felt blindsided and angered by Strahan’s departure to join “Good Morning America.” She has not commented publicly.

In mentioning his planned departure on “Live” last Wednesday, Strahan noted he’d be an on-air neighbor on “GMA.”



AP

In this June 1, 2007 file photo, Prince performs with Sheila E during the 2007 National Council of La Raza ALMA Awards in Pasadena, Calif.

‘Saturday Night Live’ devotes entire show to Prince tribute

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC’s “Saturday Night Live” is airing a special tribute show titled “Goodnight Sweet Prince.”

SNL alum Jimmy Fallon of “The Tonight Show” is hosting Saturday’s episode, which features clips of Prince performing on the comedy show over the past four de-

cades and skits with former cast member Fred Armisen portraying the artist.

The show also includes an eight-minute medley Prince performed during a 2014 show and a surprise performance during a party thrown after the show’s 40th anniversary special

last year.

The 57-year-old Prince died Thursday at his Paisley Park compound in suburban Minneapolis. An autopsy was done Friday but no cause has been announced.

The tribute show replaced a previously announced “Saturday Night Live” rerun.

Family dysfunction allows assaults to go unpunished

DEAR ABBY: Thirty-five years ago, my wife was raped in her mother’s home when she was a teenager. Eight years ago, my daughter was also raped at the age of 11 in the same home. My mother-in-law blames them both for having been raped. She told them if it did happen, they probably deserved it.

I don’t understand this. How can someone take the side of the perpetrator and not their own flesh and blood? How can someone who is supposed to be nurturing, loving and caring say such terrible things to her children?

I want to call her up and give her a piece of my mind, especially since both of them are passive when it comes to this woman. Can they file a lawsuit against her for mental anguish? Help! I want to help them heal from this tragedy, and I don’t know what to do.

DISTRAUGHT DAD IN TEXAS

DEAR DISTRAUGHT: It is not unusual for families to circle the wagons when this kind of sexual assault occurs, or to blame the victim. That is why the damage persists from generation to generation. It’s clear that your wife’s mother is either in denial or without shame.

If the perpetrator isn’t in prison or a program for sex offenders, the person you should talk to is a detective in the police force in the city where these sexual assaults happened.

If your wife and daughter haven’t received counseling for the assaults (and I’m betting they haven’t), they should find some now.

The victims didn’t “deserve” being assaulted. Counseling may help them get in touch with their anger, aim it where it belongs, and finally release it along with their passivity—which may really be fear of expressing their emotions.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My wife’s first husband died of cancer. When we got engaged years later, she decided to keep his last name (partly in regard to her daughters) and add mine to it. She continues to display some photos of him around the house and maintains her plan to be buried with him at their common gravesite.

Whoever thinks I must be jealous or resentful about this would be wrong. I haven’t experienced a long marriage, raising children or nursing a terminally ill spouse for years. Instead of demanding that my wife “prove her love” by ignoring her history, I prove my love for her -- in part -- by deferring to her choices.

Soon after our wedding we learned that I, too, had cancer. My case was treatable and I am now cured, thanks to God in heaven and my wife’s tender care.

We once knew someone who couldn’t bear to think of his wife’s ever marrying after his death. He pleaded, badgered and practically forced her to vow she wouldn’t. So this is my mes-

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



sage for men who are jealous about a deceased or hypothetical “rival”: That is your own choice and it disgraces you. Grow out of it. Be a man and love your wife while you both live.

LATECOMER IN PASCO, WASH.

DEAR LATECOMER: Your wife is one lucky woman because she married an intelligent and pragmatic man. I hope you enjoy many more happy, healthy years together.

■ ■ ■

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



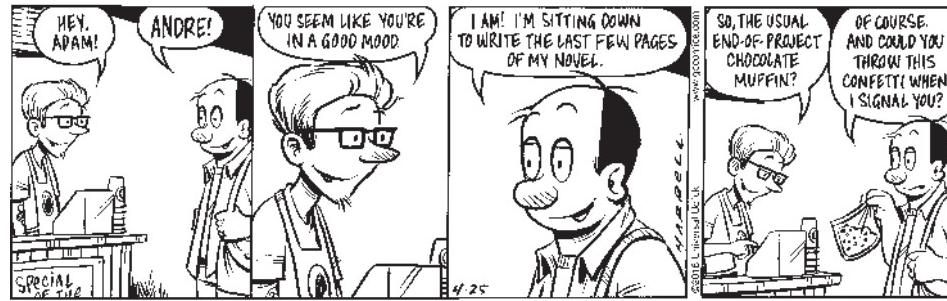
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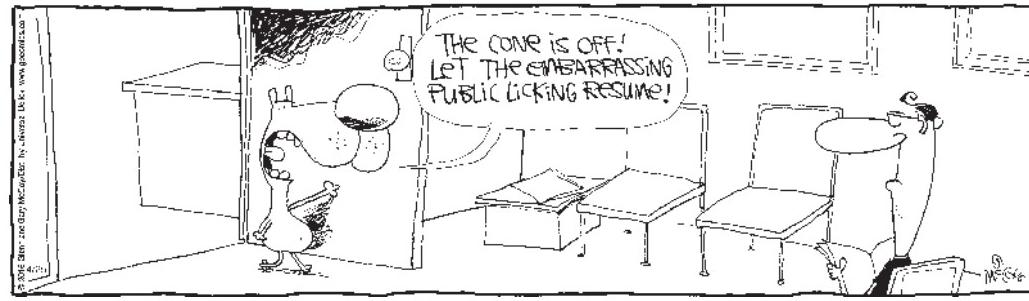
By Jim Davis

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By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	42	Oolong	3	Jail	24	Cran-	1	Recedes	40	brewer	berry	territory	Al Pacino,
5 Just out	45	Poet	4	for a sailor	25	Mode lead-in	2	44	41	Plath	elite U.S.	com-	76
8 Bridge	49	Decora-	5	Comfort	26	Mansion staff	3	42	43	foe	mando	mando	77
12 Matador's	49	Decora-	6	— out a living	27	Light-bulb filament	4	44	45	foe	chocolate	muffin?	78
13 Alias	51	Wife of Jacob	7	Stinger	29	Cariou of "Blue Bloods"	5	46	47	abbr.	Alito	confetti?	79
14 "Rule, Britan-	52	Lawyer (Abbr.)	8	Justice	30	Even so	6	48	49	nial!"	Hardy	when I signal you?	80
composer	53	Observe	9	Alico	33	Ethereal	7	50	51	Thus	High	public licking resume!	81
15 Seed coat	54	Thus	10	Diarist	36	Settles a debt	8	52	53	Ceremo-	standing	the cover is off!	82
16 Ceremo-	55	Hardy	11	Diarist	38	Croquet stick	9	54	55	nial robe	lass	let the embarrassing	83
18 Bequest	56	Saw-	12	Frank	40	Male cat	10	56	57	Bequest	buck	public licking resume!	84
20 Takes a breather	57	Horn	13	Tennis barriers	42	Perfectly	11	58	59	20	sound	the cover is off!	85
21 — fan tutte"	58	sound	14	Bar bill	43	Art Deco master	12	60	61	21	— fan	let the embarrassing	86
23 Wager	59	— List-	15	Give a free pass to	44	Try out	13	62	63	22	ending	public licking resume!	87
24 Cellar	60	ending	16	22	46	—	14	64	65	23	abbr.	the cover is off!	88
28 Easter bloom	61	abrv.	17	23	Beach, Fla.	TAURUS	15	66	67	24	Drill	let the embarrassing	89
31 Flamenco cheer	62	22	18	24	TAURUS (April 20-May 20):	TAURUS	16	68	69	25	land	public licking resume!	90
32 City near Venice	63	23	19	25	Make changes to personal documents. Renew	TAURUS	17	70	71	26	Solution time: 26 mins.	the cover is off!	91
34 "Gosh!"	64	24	20	26	your passport or get your taxes in order.	TAURUS	18	72	73	27		let the embarrassing	92
35 Teri of "Tootsie"	65	25	21	27	Put aside funds or start budgeting for something	TAURUS	19	74	75	28		public licking resume!	93
37 Ache soother	66	26	22	28	that will result in comfort or convenience. Make a personal commitment.	TAURUS	20	76	77	29		the cover is off!	94
39 Dog doc	67	27	23	29	★ ARIES (March 21-April 19):	ARIES	21	78	79	30		let the embarrassing	95
41 Taj Mahal city	68	28	24	30	Make changes to personal documents. Renew	ARIES	22	80	81	31		public licking resume!	96
					your passport or get your taxes in order.	ARIES	23	82	83	32		the cover is off!	97
					Put aside funds or start budgeting for something	ARIES	24	84	85	33		let the embarrassing	98
					that will result in comfort or convenience. Make a personal commitment.	ARIES	25	86	87	34		public licking resume!	99
					★ TAURUS (April 20-May 20):	TAURUS	26	88	89	35		the cover is off!	100
					Expand your interests and friendships. Be open	TAURUS	27	90	91	36		let the embarrassing	101
					to new ideas and consider making personal changes that will make you feel good about yourself. Approach old projects with insight and renewed vision. Explore possibilities and do what works best for you.	TAURUS	28	92	93	37		public licking resume!	102
					★ GEMINI (May 21-June 20):	GEMINI	29	94	95	38		the cover is off!	103
					Take a close look at your relationships and separate the good from the bad. If someone is	GEMINI	30	96	97	39		let the embarrassing	104
					taking advantage of you, put an end to it. You will	GEMINI	31	98	99	40		public licking resume!	105
					only have yourself to blame if you don't protect	GEMINI	32	100	101	41		the cover is off!	106
					your rights, your cash and your reputation.	GEMINI	33	102	103	42		let the embarrassing	107
					★ CANCER (June 21-July 22):	CANCER	34	104	105	43		public licking resume!	108
					Don't deviate from your original plans. Having a clear picture of what you want to see hap-	CANCER	35	106	107	44		the cover is off!	109
					pen will help you move forward without a hitch.	CANCER	36	108	109	45		let the embarrassing	110
					An unusual domestic change could create confusion. Don't let others interrupt your plans.	CANCER	37	110	111	46		public licking resume!	111
					★ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):	LEO	38	112	113	47		the cover is off!	112
					You'll never get everyone's approval. Do what works for you and don't worry about pleasing everyone. Romance is on the rise, and making positive changes in your personal life will lead to peace of mind and happiness.	LEO	39	114	115	48		let the embarrassing	113
					★ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):	VIRGO	40	116	117	49		public licking resume!	114
					Look for an outside opinion if you sense confusion and uncertainty at home or with a loved one. You'll be surprised by the advice offered and should consider the suggestions that are made before it's too late.	VIRGO	41	118	119	50		the cover is off!	115
					★ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):	LIBRA	42	120	121	51		let the embarrassing	116
					Put more thought into personal finance issues, property investments and ways to ease your stress. A discussion with someone close to you will help you make the right choice. Romance will bring you closer to the one you love.	LIBRA	43	122	123	52		public licking resume!	117
					★ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):	SCORPIO	44	124	125	53		the cover is off!	118
					You'll want to do it all. Don't lose sight of your goals or take on more than you can handle. It's important to keep communication open and honest with someone you are paired with personally or professionally.	SCORPIO	45	126	127	54		let the embarrassing	119
					★ GEMINI (May 21-June 20):	GEMINI	46	128	129	55		public licking resume!	120
					Take a close look at your relationships and separate the good from the bad. If someone is	GEMINI	47	130	131	56		the cover is off!	121
					taking advantage of you, put an end to it. You will	GEMINI	48	132	133	57		let the embarrassing	122
					only have yourself to blame if you don't protect	GEMINI	49	134	135	58		public licking resume!	123
					your rights, your cash and your reputation.	GEMINI	50	136	137	59		the cover is off!	124
					★ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):	SAGITTARIUS	51	138	139	60		let the embarrassing	125
					Doing your own research will make a difference. Don't rely on anyone else to gather facts for you. An entertaining attitude will	SAGITTARIUS	52	140	141	61		public licking resume!	126
					get others to open up and reveal the information you need to obtain. Romance will lift your spirits.	SAGITTARIUS	53	142	143	62		the cover is off!	127
					★ CANCER (June 21-July 22):	CANCER	54	144	145	63		let the embarrassing	128
					Don't deviate from your original plans. Having a clear picture of what you want to see hap-	CANCER	55	146	147	64		public licking resume!	129
					pen will help you move forward without a hitch.	CANCER	56	148	149	65		the cover is off!	130
					An unusual domestic change could create confusion. Don't let others interrupt your plans.	CANCER	57	150	151	66		let the embarrassing	131
					★ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):	LEO	58	152	153	67		public licking resume!	132
					You'll never get everyone's approval. Do what works for you and don't worry about pleasing everyone. Romance is on the rise, and making positive changes in your personal life will lead to peace of mind and happiness.	LEO	59	154	155	68		the cover is off!	133
					★ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):	VIRGO	60	156	157	69		let the embarrassing	134
					Look for an outside opinion if you sense confusion and uncertainty at home or with a loved one. You'll be surprised by the advice offered and should consider the suggestions that are made								

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: April 21, 2016
CLOSE DATE: May 5, 2016

POSITION: Lifeguard
SALARY: \$6.05 - \$7.05 per hour

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent required. Obtaining a lifeguard certification will be required for continued employment for the lifeguard position. Must have a friendly and an outgoing personality. Twelve (12) positions are currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 21, 2016
CLOSE DATE: May 5, 2016

POSITION: Server
SALARY: \$6.05 - \$7.05 per hour

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in food service preferred. Friendly personality, willingness to serve and a readily smiling individual highly preferred. Four (4) positions are currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 21, 2016
CLOSE DATE: May 5, 2016

POSITION: Gym & Spa Attendant
SALARY: \$6.05 - \$7.05 per hour

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in a health club or spa preferred. Friendly personality, willingness to serve and a readily smiling individual highly preferred. One (1) position is currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 21, 2016
CLOSE DATE: May 5, 2016

POSITION: Maintenance Repairer
SALARY: \$6.05 - \$7.05 per hour

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent required. Two (2) years of experience in construction or maintenance preferred. Six (6) positions are currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 21, 2016
CLOSE DATE: May 5, 2016

POSITION: Power Plant Operator
SALARY: \$6.05 - \$7.05 per hour

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent required. Two (2) years of experience in mechanical repair / engineering highly preferred. Four (4) positions are currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 21, 2016
CLOSE DATE: May 5, 2016

POSITION: Landscaper
SALARY: \$6.05 - \$7.05 per hour

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent required. Two (2) years of experience in landscaping preferred. Two (2) positions are currently available.

TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguijan
P.O. box 520059, Tinian, MP 96952
Tel.: (670) 433-2200 • Fax: (670) 433-1896
tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 03:30 pm. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA**I. PRELIMINARY**

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION²****V. NEW BUSINESS**

- To finalize the proposed amendments of the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Rules and Regulation.

V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER**VI. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING****VII. ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ JULIAN U. HOFSCHEIDER
Chairman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle/Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be accepted by the Security Office. For more information, please contact the Human Resources Team at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266/576.

Find today's solution in classified section

Thunder push Mavs to brink of elimination



DALLAS (AP)— Kevin Durant got ejected, Russell Westbrook was part of a shouting match in front of his bench and Serge Ibaka drew a technical for throwing an elbow in the final seconds with the outcome already decided.

Regardless, the Oklahoma City Thunder are now in firm control of a testy first-round series that got quite a bit tesser.

Westbrook had 25 points and 15 assists, Durant added 19 points in a quiet game before he was thrown out following a flagrant foul in the final minute and the Thunder beat the Dallas Mavericks 119-108 on Saturday for a 3-1 series lead.

Going into Game 5 on Monday night in Oklahoma City, Durant doesn't think things are getting out of hand despite several tense moments that included Dallas team security making sure he didn't leave the court in front of the Mavericks bench after his ejection.

"I don't believe they're trying to hurt us, and we're not trying to hurt them," Durant said, also emphasizing that he wasn't trying to hurt Justin Anderson when he swung his arm across the Dallas guard's head. "We're going to do some talking. We're going to do some shoving here and there because that's how competitive both teams are."

Enes Kanter had his second straight playoff career high with 28 points on 12-of-13 shooting for the Thunder, who never trailed in two games in Dallas after the Mavericks evened the series with a one-point win in Oklahoma City following a 38-point loss in the opener.

Dirk Nowitzki had 27 points and eight rebounds for the Mavericks, who stayed close in the second half after a Game 3 blowout but couldn't get the deficit inside seven in the second half. Dallas hasn't won a playoff series since winning the 2011 NBA title.

"Just fighting till the end," Nowitzki said. "Fighting till it's over. We were always thinking make one more push, make one more push."

After Dallas coach Rick Carlisle called out Durant while complaining during the off day over what he essentially said were dirty plays by the Thunder in Game 3, the teams had a confrontation in front of the Oklahoma City bench early in the second quarter.

That flare-up started when Anthony Morrow, who was sitting on the bench, refused to give the ball to Salah Mejri after the Thunder threw it out



AP

Dallas Mavericks guard Wesley Matthews (23) tries to steal the ball from Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant (35) during the second half in Game 4 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series Saturday, April 23, 2016, in Dallas.

with three 3-pointers.

Chris Paul finished with 26 points for the Clippers, who had held the Blazers to an average of just 88 points in the first two games—down from an average of 105.1 in the regular season.

Pacers 100, Raptors 83

In Indiana, George Hill and Ian Mahinmi each scored 22 points, Paul George added 19 and the Indiana Pacers beat the Toronto Raptors on Sunday to tie the first-round playoff series at 2-2.

Game 5 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night in Toronto.

Jonas Valanciunas led Toronto with 16 points, and Kyle Lowry and DeMarre Carroll each had 12.

Indiana scored the first seven points, took control with a 3-point spree late in the first quarter and led by as much as 25 points in the first half. Toronto, which never led or tied the score, cut it to 57-42 at halftime, but couldn't get closer than 11 in the second half.

Carlisle said point guard Deron Williams was finished for the season after he lasted all of 89 seconds trying to return in his continuing battle with a sports hernia that kept him out of Game 3. He limped to the locker room with 10:31 remaining.

Williams aggravated what is being called a left abdominal strain while chasing a loose ball and running into the scorer's table just 40 seconds into the game.

Hornets 96, Heat 80

In Charlotte, Jeremy Lin scored 18 points, Kemba Walker had 17 and Charlotte beat Miami to snap a 12-game playoff losing streak and earn its first postseason victory in 14 years.

Rookie Frank Kaminsky, who got the starting nod, scored eight of his 15 points during an 18-0 run in the third quarter that broke open a 53-all game.

The Heat lead the series 2-1, with Game 4 set for Monday night.

Marvin Williams, a non-factor in the first two games, had 12 points and 14 rebounds for the Hornets.

Luol Deng scored 19 points on five 3-pointers, and Dwyane Wade added 17 for Miami. Hassan Whiteside had 13 points and 18 rebounds but battled foul trouble.

Miami, which shot 58 percent from the field in the first two games, was limited to 34 percent shooting.

Trail Blazers 96, Clippers 88

In Portland, Damian Lillard

scored 32 points and Portland found its offense at home, beating Los Angeles to pull within 2-1 in the Western Conference first-round series.

Newly crowned Most Improved Player CJ McCollum added 27 points for Portland, which snapped a five-game losing streak to the Clippers going back to the regular season.

Mason Plumlee had six points, 21 rebounds and nine assists for Portland, which hosts Game 4 on Monday night.

Lillard had made only 13 of 39 from the floor, and just 3 of 14 from 3-point range in the first two games combined. But he found his shot on Saturday, hitting 10 of 20 from the field

Curry expected to play in Game 4

HOUSTON (AP)—Stephen Curry is expected to play Sunday in Game 4 of Golden State's first-round series against Houston.

Curry sprained his right ankle in the series opener and missed the last two games. Golden State won the first one without him, but Houston took Game 3 on Thursday night to cut the series deficit to 2-1.

The Warriors officially listed him as probable, but coach Steve Kerr says he expects him to play.

Curry participated in a 5-on-5 scrimmage in practice Saturday and says that if he doesn't have any setbacks he "should be good" for Sunday.

He says the biggest thing was feeling like his ankle was stable when he tried to pivot or make moves to avoid defenders. He says: "I can deal with a little discomfort that comes along with it as long as it feels stable."

Meanwhile, the San Antonio Spurs know finishing off a playoff series is challenging. Being a win away from sweeping an opponent is even harder.

The Spurs and Cleveland Cavaliers are on the verge of advancing in the postseason and setting themselves up for a little extra rest.

The Spurs can cap off their fifth series sweep in the past five postseasons Sunday, and their second in that stretch against Memphis. San Antonio hasn't swept a first-round series since ousting the Lakers in 2013, and the Spurs' last sweep came against these Grizzlies in the 2013 Western Conference finals.

"This is the hardest, especially on the road," Spurs guard Tony Parker said Saturday of completing a sweep.

Kawhi Leonard pulled the Spurs through Game 3 with another impressive playoff performance. The two-time defensive player of the year scored 13 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter. Leonard also blocked five shots with no turnovers, becoming the first player to score at least 30 and do that in a playoff game since Shaquille O'Neal on May 20, 2000.

The Boston Celtics are also looking to even their series against the Atlanta Hawks, though they may need another Herculean effort from Isaiah Thomas.

Duncan said of Leonard. "And (to) see him change and his confidence grow every game is amazing to watch."

The teams face a quick turnaround with the first tipoff Sunday, and that hurts the Grizzlies, who have just 10 healthy players. Coach Dave Joerger stuck with his veterans Zach Randolph and Matt Barnes in Game 3. Vince Carter was the only starter to play less than 33 minutes with Barnes on the court for more than 41.

The Cavaliers can also knock out feisty Detroit.

Golden State seems to be in total control against Houston, but the Warriors are up 2-1 against the Rockets. There has been a lot of talk about the NBA's announcement that James Harden should have been whistled for an offensive foul on his game-winner in Game 3. But despite the chatter, the Rockets can even the series with a win at home.

The Boston Celtics are also looking to even their series against the Atlanta Hawks, though they may need another Herculean effort from Isaiah Thomas.

Maeda baffles Rockies, leads Dodgers to win



D E N V E R

(AP)—Kenta Maeda tamed a notorious hitter's park about as well as any pitcher can.

So much for being intimidated in his first start at Coors Field.

Maeda held Colorado hitless into the sixth inning, A.J. Ellis lined a two-run homer and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Rockies 4-1 on Saturday night.

Maeda's mind wasn't on a no-hitter, though. It wasn't even discussed in the L.A. dugout. Not at this park, where runs can be scored in a hurry.

"Start getting less than five outs, it's something you start talking about, thinking about," Ellis said. "But first time pitching at Coors Field, first time against that offensive firepower they have over there, I can't say enough what Kenta was able to do. It's beyond impressive."

Maeda (3-0) allowed three hits—all in the sixth—no runs and struck out eight in 6 1/3 innings as the right-hander from Japan lowered his ERA to 0.36.

With a wind-up reminiscent of countryman Hideo Nomo, Maeda was cruising along until one out in the sixth when DJ LeMahieu singled for Colorado's first hit. Nomo remains the only pitcher to throw a no-hitter at Coors Field -- on Sept. 17, 1996.

Ellis hit his first homer of the season in the second to help the Dodgers end a five-game slide in Denver. Kenley Jansen threw a perfect ninth for his eighth save.

Tyler Chatwood (2-2) allowed three runs before exiting after the fourth with an elevated pitch count. He missed last season after undergoing

his second Tommy John surgery.

"I didn't have command of anything really," Chatwood said. "It was just not very good overall."

Maeda was untouchable most of the night by keeping the Rockies off balance with a nasty breaking ball mixed in with pinpoint fastball control.

Nationals 2, Twins 0

In Washington, Tanner Roark struck out a career-high 15 and allowed only two hits over seven innings in a dominating performance that carried the Washington Nationals past the Minnesota.

Roark and a trio of relievers combined to fan 18, the most by Washington since its arrival from Montreal in 2005.

Reds 13, Cubs 5

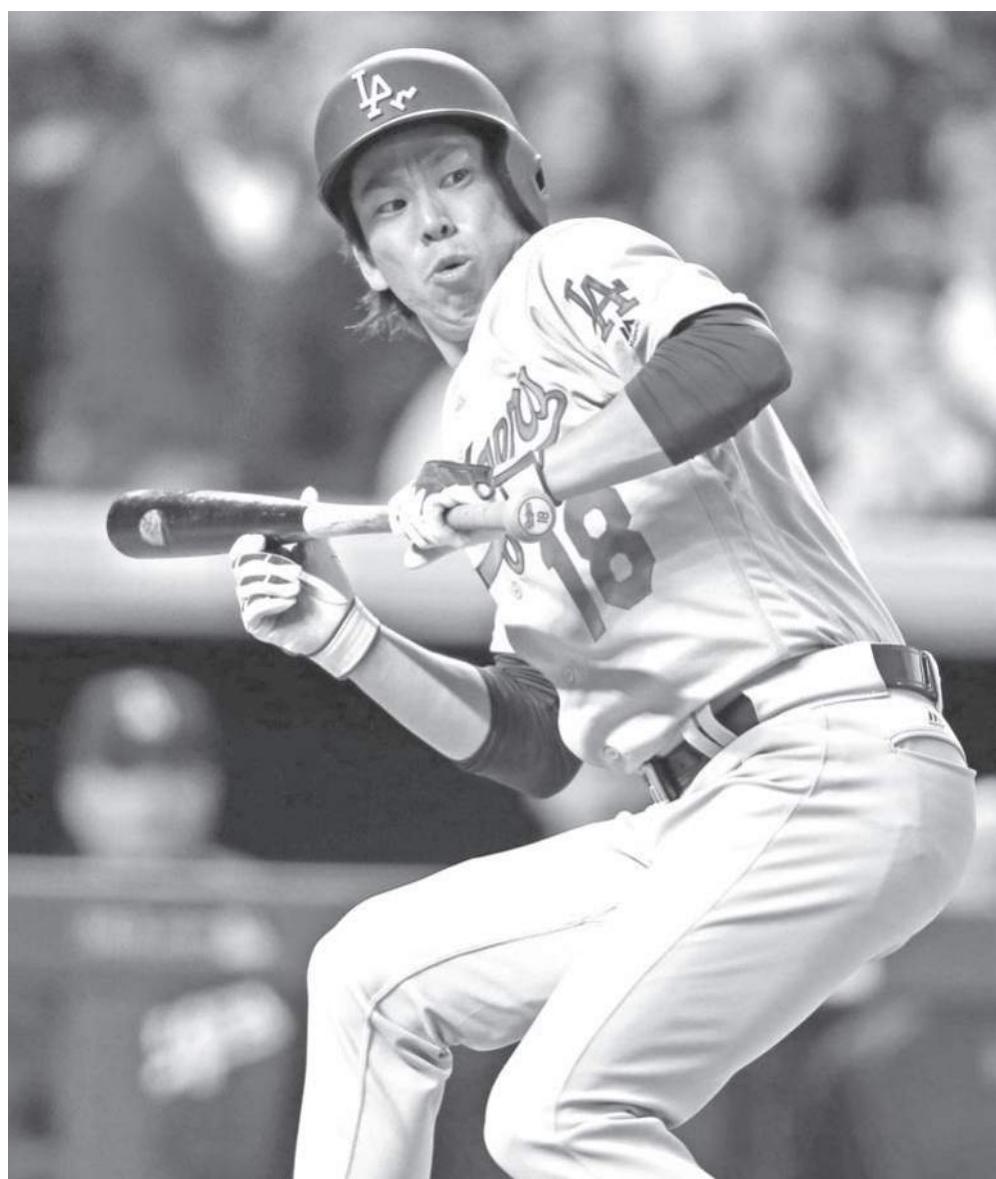
In Cincinnati, Eugenio Suarez and Adam Duvall hit three-run homers in the sixth inning as Cincinnati finally broke through against Chicago's dominant pitching.

A victory would have given the Cubs (13-5) their best start since 1907, the year they won the first of their back-to-back World Series titles. A four-homer splurge ended Chicago's domination of its NL Central rival.

Cardinals 11, Padres 2

In San Diego, rookie Aledmys Diaz had his first five-hit game, Jedd Gyorko and Jeremy Hazelbaker hit three-run homers and St. Louis beat San Diego.

Diaz had a two-run double in the ninth, while Gyorko homered off his old team and Hazelbaker snapped an 0-for-17 slump. Gyorko and Stephen Piscotty each had three hits, and Piscotty hit a solo homer in the sixth.



Giants 7, Marlins 2

In San Francisco, Jake Peavy pitched seven innings for his first win and added a two-run single off Miami ace Jose Fernandez.

Gregor Blanco tripled twice and scored two runs while Matt Duffy had three hits and scored for the Giants, who have won two straight following a five-game losing streak.

Diamondbacks 7, Pirates 1

In Phoenix, Chris Herrmann drove in four runs with a

home run and double, Rubby De La Rosa gave up three hits over six-plus innings, and Arizona beat Pittsburgh.

Herrmann, the backup catcher who was 1 for 20 at the plate entering the game, doubled in a run in the second and hit a three-run homer off A.J. Schugel in Arizona's five-run eighth. The four RBI tied Herrmann's career high.

Angels 4, Mariners 2

In Anaheim, Mike Trout drove in the tying and go-ahead runs with a home run

against Felix Hernandez, Cliff Pennington also homered, and Los Angeles beat Seattle.

Nelson Cruz put Seattle ahead 2-1 in the sixth with his second homer in two nights after an eight-game drought. But Trout responded in the bottom half when he drove a 1-0 pitch to center field after a leadoff single by Rafael Ortega.

Yankees 3, Rays 2

In New York, Brett Gardner hit a solo home run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to give New York a victory over Tampa Bay, spoiling the impressive major league debut of Rays top pitching prospect Blake Snell.

Gardner singed home the tying run in the seventh and then connected on a 3-1 pitch from Erasmo Ramirez (4-1) two innings later.

Mets 8, Braves 2

In Atlanta, David Wright hit a two-run double, Steven Matz earned his second straight win and New York stayed hot by beating power-deprived Atlanta.

Neil Walker and Asdrubal Cabrera hit back-to-back home runs in the ninth against right-hander Ryan Weber. The Mets had 15 hits and have homers in eight straight games.

Phillies 10, Brewers 6

In Milwaukee, Maikel Franco

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers' Kenta Maeda reacts after putting down a sacrifice bunt on a pitch from Colorado Rockies relief pitcher Christian Bergman in the sixth inning of a baseball game Saturday, April 23, 2016, in Denver.

hit his third homer in two days, Odubel Herrera homered and reached base five times and Philadelphia beat Milwaukee.

Franco hit his fifth homer and drove in four runs after hitting two homers in a 5-2 win over Milwaukee on Friday night.

White Sox 4, Rangers 3, 11 innings

In Chicago, slump-ridden Jose Abreu hit an RBI single with one out in the bottom of the 11th inning, leading Chicago over Texas.

After Texas tied it in the ninth on Elvis Andrus' sacrifice fly off David Robertson, the White Sox went on to win for the fourth time in five games.

Orioles 8, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Chris Davis homered and had four hits and Manny Machado extended his hitting streak to 16 games for Baltimore.

Mark Trumbo had three hits and four RBI for the Orioles, and Tyler Wilson (1-0) won his first start this season.

Astros 8, Red Sox 3

In Houston, Colby Rasmus hit a tie-breaking grand slam in the fifth inning to lead Houston over Boston and snap a four-game skid.

He drove in a fifth run with a double in Houston's three-run eighth for his most RBI since he had six on June 2, 2011.

Indians 10, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Corey Kluber struck out 10 over eight impressive innings, Yan Gomes homered and drove in five runs for Cleveland in the rout.

Kluber (1-3) happily accepted the offensive output to earn his first win of the season. The 2014 AL Cy Young Award winner, who went 9-16 last year, gave up two hits and no walks in eight innings.

Blue Jays 9, Athletics 3

In Toronto, Troy Tulowitzki hit two solo home runs, Josh Donaldson added a three-run blast and Toronto snapped Oakland's six-game winning streak.

J.A. Happ (3-0) allowed three runs and seven hits in seven innings to win his third straight start.

Jets: No deadline on re-signing 'priority' Fitzpatrick



**F L O R H A M
P A R K, N.J.**

(AP)—Ryan Fitzpatrick is still a free agent—and the New York Jets' quarterback situation could remain in limbo for a while longer.

Re-signing Fitzpatrick remains a priority for the Jets, although general manager Mike Maccagnan acknowledged that there's not necessarily a hard deadline for the team to have the quarterback back on the roster.

"We like Ryan very much and we feel we have a very good situation for Ryan here," Maccagnan said at the team's predraft news conference Friday, reiterating his comments from earlier this offseason.

"He's a very good fit for

us, too. So hopefully at some point in time we can work out some kind of an agreement on a contract."

Fitzpatrick and the Jets remained in a contract stalemate Friday, six days before the NFL draft begins. The Jets recently worked out free agent Brian Hoyer, cut by Houston earlier this week, as a fallback option, several weeks after they brought in Robert Griffin III.

"Our focus is Ryan, but again, he's a free agent," Maccagnan said. "You never know what happens in free agency."

Maccagnan, taking a calm and cool approach, said the situation with Fitzpatrick "will work itself out," but also acknowledged it could "take some time."

Either way, Maccagnan

suggested that Geno Smith and Bryce Petty could see increased snaps when organized team activities begin next month—if Fitzpatrick still isn't back.

"No, I don't feel any pressure to have (a quarterback) by a specified time," Maccagnan said.

He said a team would, of course, like all of its players on the field for the offseason program. "But, I don't really feel like we're locked in on (anything)," he added, as far as a deadline.

Maccagnan also said that Fitzpatrick's situation wouldn't preclude the Jets from selecting a quarterback in the first round. He also confirmed that the Jets "inquired" about obtaining the No. 1

overall pick from Tennessee before the Titans traded it to the Los Angeles Rams.

"I don't want to get into how far along or how close we were," he said. "Once you understand that picks are in play, you have to do your due diligence just so you understand all of your options."

Memphis' Paxton Lynch might be a target at No. 20 for the Jets, if he lasts that long. While Maccagnan mostly spoke in general terms about the crop of quarterbacks available this year, he said

Lynch "has a degree of skill that is intriguing."

Lynch's stock appears to be rising, which means New York might have to swing a deal to get into the top 10 if the Jets want him.

McDonald's renews commitment to CNMI athletics

McDonald's Saipan renewed its commitment to one of the longest-running grassroots sports programs in the CNMI.

McDonald's turned in \$3,000 donation to Northern Marianas Athletics for the 2016 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships, which will feature the future of the sport in the Commonwealth as hundreds of student-athletes compete in running, throwing, and jumping events from May 4 to 7 at the Hopwood Junior High School.

"This is our 12th year of supporting the All Schools



Northern Marianas Athletics

competition and we are always happy to help and provide some worthwhile and healthy activities for our kids," McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu said.

"We will continue to help in whatever way we can as this is our way of giving back to the community who has been very good to us," Ayuyu added.

NMA, through its president Ray Tebuteb, expressed their gratitude to McDonald's for the continued partnership.

"We would like to thank McDonald's for their continued commitment to our program. It's always great and

fun to see our student-athletes enjoy competing. It gives us satisfaction knowing that we are able to discover and train young athletes through the help of McDonald's and our other supporters," said Tebuteb, who was joined in the donation turnover ceremony by NMA secretary general Robin Sapong and head coach Elias Rangamar. (PR)

JON PEREZ

Northern Marianas Athletics officials receive the ceremonial check donation for the 2016 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships from McDonald's during a turnover ceremony at McDonald's Middle Road last Friday.



Martial scores late to send Man United into FA Cup final



United's Anthony Martial, left, is challenged by Everton's John Stones on his way to score the winning goal during the English FA Cup semifinal soccer match between Everton and Manchester United at Wembley stadium in London, Saturday, April 23, 2016. (AP)

WUSSTIG

From Page 28

year break from the octagon cage after his sorry loss to Guam's Ernie Santos in Rites of Passage 17, was caught by Cepeda and they grappled down the canvas with the latter attempting to stop the eventual winner with his own RNC move. Cepeda was still in control of Nuique at the 10-second warning bell before

the latter got out of the Zeng Zung bet's hold and gave the former a dose of his own medicine. Referee Keith Nabors then stepped in to stop the fight in favor of Nuique, while Cepeda remained down at the canvas, taking a while to get his normal breathing back.

The victory over Cepeda ended Nuique's string of losses. The Trench Tech fighter won his first eight MMA fights before dropping his next four. In

his last defeat, Nuique was way ahead on points, as he punished Santos with a flurry of punches, but the Guam bet went on to win via RNC at the 2:29 mark of the third and last round.

Meanwhile, Zalaka's Andrew "Top Gun" Sablan also had a triumphant return to the eight sides after posting the fastest victory in ROP 19. The lanky Sablan defeated Eric "The Sandman" Reyes of Ground Fu-Guam via standup

half of the draw and ranked third in his age group pulled off an upset against the No. 2 seed Richard Steele in the semis last Saturday, 6-1, 6-1, to march into the finals.

Miyawaki, on the other hand, got a free ride to the finals after winning via walkover against the top-ranked Daniel Kang, who could not play in the final week of the tournament after breaking his collar bone last Friday. Earlier in the quarterfinals, Miyawaki eliminated the fourth-seeded Anthony Gregoire, 6-4, 6-0, to set up a semis date against Kang, who shut down Jae Hoon Son in the Round of 8 before missing his Final Four match. With Kang out of last

weekend's game, Steele automatically took the third place honors in the boys U12 singles.

In the boys U14 singles, Woo denied Paik's bid for a second singles crown in the tournament after prevailing in their title duel yesterday, 6-4, 6-2. Woo arranged another finals showdown against Paik after outlasting Sean Lee in the second semis game last Saturday, 7-6 (5), 6-4. Paik won the first semis tiff played in Week 2 of the competition as he blanked Jack Jeoung, who did not play in yesterday's consolation match, allowing Lee to get the third place medal.

In other results, Gregoire still made it to the champion-

LONDON (AP)—Anthony

Martial darted through the Everton defense, slotted in Manchester United's winner and continued his run past the Wembley Stadium stewards before launching himself into the crowd.

It was a flash of pure elation after being so cool under pressure to score in the third minute of stoppage time and send United into its first FA Cup final in nine years with a 2-1 victory over Everton.

Martial created Marouane Fellaini's first-half opener but that was canceled out by Chris Smalling's own goal and the semifinal was heading to extra time.

Martial's match-winning moment demonstrated why United was willing to commit up to 80

million euros (\$90 million) last year on acquiring a largely unproven teenager who is now 20 and a France international forward.

United is struggling even to finish in the top four and secure lucrative Champions League qualification, with Arsenal four points ahead in fourth place.



THE
Emirates
FA CUP

years with Van Gaal at the helm.

United is struggling even to finish in the top four and secure lucrative Champions League qualification, with Arsenal four points ahead in fourth place.

Ultimately, snatching fourth place is more significant for United's prestige than winning a domestic cup, whose status has diminished with many teams sending out weakened lineups in earlier rounds.

"It's not for me to judge, it's for the board of Manchester United," Van Gaal said.

And United has not challenged the accuracy of months of reports that Van Gaal is heading for the Old Trafford exit before entering the final season of his contract, with former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho being lined up as a replacement.

COMETS

From Page 28

The Yankees and the Islanders were playing in the final game late yesterday afternoon and results were unavailable at press time.

Jimmy Demapan scored the winning run for the Comets as he reached home off a fielder's choice at the bottom of the eighth inning. He led off for the Comets in the extra inning and singled before stealing second and moving to third off a hit from Aurel Mendiola.

Demapan went on to make the go-ahead run with the Comets called only for the first out.

It was a come-from-behind win for the Comets, who tacked on three runs in the last two regular innings, including Elijah Villar's run off a wild pitch that tied the game at the bottom of the seventh. The Comets' other run in the seventh came from Kody Omengkar off the Red Sox's error at third base, while the run in the sixth was courtesy of N-Nes Siech, who reached off another wild pitch Delin Reusora.

The Comets played catch

up after a slow start as they scored only three runs in the first five innings, while the Red Sox's doubled up their foes' output for a 6-3 cushion. The Red Sox got three runs in the first and one each from the second to fourth inning before going cold in the last four.

Ethan Babauta closed out for the Comets, allowing only two hits with no walks, while striking out six in three innings pitched.

Earlier in the Junior League match, the Red Sox held the Braves scoreless in the last six innings to pull off the close win.

Before being neutralized by the Red Sox's defense, the Braves managed to bag three runs—two earned—in the first inning. The Red Sox then countered with four runs at the bottom of the first to grab the lead and they kept the driver's seat after adding one run each in the third and sixth and three in the fifth, while the Braves failed to answer back.

Trevon Lieto paced the Red Sox, as he scored three runs and had three RBIs off a 3-for-4 performance at the plate.

2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League Football

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



MP United and Matansa FC players run after the ball during their U12 division game in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League Football Festival last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



Paire players play in the sidelines while waiting for their game.

◀ MP United U8 players cool down while waiting to check back into the game.

An MP United U18 player dribbles away from Shirley's FC defenders. ▶



A Matansa, left, and Tan Holdings U10 players chase the ball.



MP United and Tan Holdings U8 players show sportsmanship after their match.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Tan Holdings U8 players and coaches celebrate their win.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Matansa U12 players get instructions from their coach before the start of their game against MP United.



A Shirley's FC male player faces two MP United defenders, while his teammates watch the U8 match action.



**Thunder push
Mavs to brink
of elimination**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

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**Maeda baffles
Rockies,
leads Dodgers
to win**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Seung Jin Paik returns to Rintaro Miyawaki during their boys U12 title game in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Seeded junior players deliver

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seeded players in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships lived up to high expectations as they won their respective title matches yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Wusstig wins title match; Nuique ends skid

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Spike 22 Guam's Rob Wusstig took the lightweight title belt, while Trench Tech's

Mark "The Dark" Nuique snapped his losing skid as the two MMA fighters triumphed in last Saturday's Rites of Passage 19: Seek and Destroy



held at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

Wusstig prevailed in the all-Guam title bout after a technical



In the boys U18 singles, the top-ranked Morris Villanueva swept the unseeded Robbie Schorr in the finals, 6-2, 6-0. Villanueva, who automatically moved into the quarterfinals because of his ranking in the nine-player field, ruled the division with-

out losing a single set. He also took only two sets in downing Tony Kim, 6-3, 6-4, in the semifinals of the upper half of the draw last Saturday and earlier in Week 1 of the annual tournament, Villanueva

See SEEDED on Page 26

Comets, Red Sox top foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Comets and Red Sox prevailed in their respective matches in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

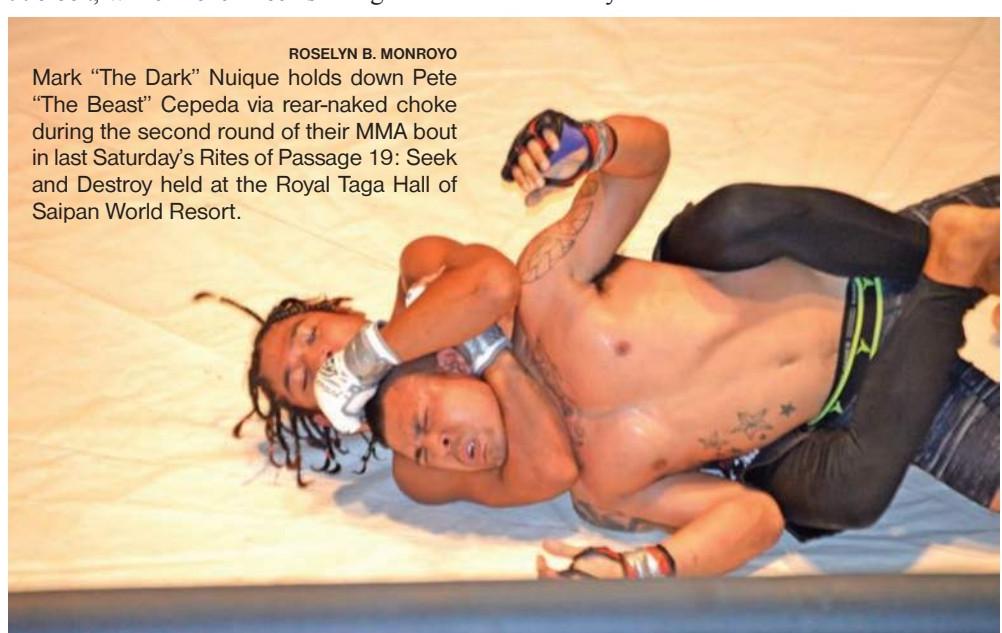
In the Senior League pairing, the Comets needed an extra inning to nose out the Red Sox, 7-6, while the latter's Junior League crew outclassed the Braves, 8-3, in the opener of the triple-header.

See COMETS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Red Sox's Henry Fleming eyes his target before delivering a pitch during their Junior League game against the Braves in the SLLB yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mark "The Dark" Nuique holds down Pete "The Beast" Cepeda via rear-naked choke during the second round of their MMA bout in last Saturday's Rites of Passage 19: Seek and Destroy held at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

knockout win against High Blood Pressure's Ryan "The Predator" Toves at the 1:37 mark of the second round. Wusstig used his better grappling skills against Toves to pin his opponent down and then peppered the latter with punches to the head and body. Toves tried to get out of trouble a couple of times, but could not as the beefier Wusstig maintained his top position and kept pounding on the former, prompting referee Cuki Alvarez to stop the fight.

Meanwhile, Nuique earned a victory against Zeng Zung's Pete "The Beast" Cepeda via rear-naked choke just five seconds left in the three-minute first round. Nuique took the win despite being held down by Cepeda in the majority of the match.

Nuique, who took a one-

See WUSSTIG on Page 26